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THE TRANSVAAL WAR: ALL THAT WE SAW OF THE BOERS AT MAJUBA HILL.



DIFFICULTIES OF TRAVELLING IN SOUTH AFRICA: OFFICERS CROSSING THE INGAGANI RIVER (SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST).—SEE PAGE 370.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

Although I am passionately fond of home life, and esteem Diderot's ragged dressing-gown the most comfortable of all possible garments, and the "Old Arm-chair," once celebrated by Miss Eliza Cook, to be an article of furniture much more to be desired than the lordliest of foreign fauteuils, I am from time to time constrained, very much against my will, to go Out of Town—sometimes a very long way out, and at the very shortest notice. That I should be obliged occasionally to take the most unceremonious of French leaves of my patrons is (I can sincerely assure them) all the more distressing to me; as I am sure to find on my return a vast accumulation of letters from the great tribe of correspondents who, like Mr. Arthur Clennam, in "Little Dorrit," "Want to Know," and who are, no doubt, highly indignant because I am not always on the spot to answer their queries in the "Echoes."

For example, "Inquirer," writing from Bristol, is anxious for information touching the Hindu method of computing time. He is not satisfied with the explanation in a work called "The Faiths of the World" (Fullerton and Co., London and Edinburgh); and for that I am sorry, seeing that I should have referred him to the extensive compilation in question, in which (vol. ii., p. 929) it is stated, under the heading "Yug," that there are four yugs in Hindu chronology, and that the Brahmanical "kalpa" is equal to the whole period of the four yugs, and consists of 4,320,000,000 solar years, "which is a day of Brahma; and his night has the same duration." For further information I might refer "Inquirer" to Mr. Edwin Arnold, C.S.I., the author of "The Light of Asia." That gifted poet and accomplished scholar knows several billions more facts about Hindustan than I do. He is not a much busier person than I am; he is the most amiable and obliging of mankind; and but for the Post-Office regulations he would probably feel inclined to send me a dose of strichnine as a recompence for my endowing him with an additional correspondent.

Then, "A. E. C." writes from the Cape of Good Hope with reference to a statement as to the bibliography of the English translations of Rocheoucauld's "maxims" made by the late Mr. E. S. Dallas in an article in the *Nineteenth Century*. I entreat my esteemed correspondent at Cape Town to consult *Notes and Queries*. "W. F.," a gentleman engaged in military educational pursuits at Kamptee, Central India, writes me a very long letter about Euclid's Elements. "J. H. S.," Sheffield, asks for the correct pronunciation of the names "Villon" and "Gautier" (I have no personal remembrance of François Villon; but I knew Théophile Gautier well, and I think his name was pronounced "Goatyay"); and then "J. H. P., Greenhithe," would be obliged for a line or two of advice as to the best part of the United States for a doctor to settle in. Horace Greeley, when he was applied to for counsel by juvenile aspirants for employment, had one stereotyped reply—"Go West, young man." I might (following the Horatian maxim) say to my Greenhithe correspondent, "Go to Omaha, or to St. Paul's, Minnesota, and then begin to 'prospect about'." If my own trade fell, I think that I should make for San Francisco, and try to obtain a situation as assistant to a photographer. The heliographic tribe have good times in El Dorado. As a man becomes richer and richer he naturally grows fonder and fonder of having himself, his wife, and his children photographed.

And what am I to say to "M. L.," who is much exercised as to whether the American people are still given to the use of what Mr. Thackeray used to call "expectoratoons"? I beg to state that I have a work on the United States (highly topographical, geological, statistical, and politico-economical) in the press; and that I have no wish to imperil its success by saying anything on the vexed question of "expectoratoons." And then "Le Mer," who contends that it was not a "steam jacket" which exploded on board the Great Eastern, but a cistern or tank to contain water for the purpose of feeding the boilers? What shall I say to him? "Le Mer" admits that at the time of the accident he was off the South African coast, and that he did not read the account of the explosion until some months afterwards. I can only repeat (from ocular observation) that it was a steam jacket, and not a cistern; only I should have said that it encircled the funnel instead of (as I erroneously put it) the mast.

Then a lady correspondent at Constantinople addresses me enthusiastically about the comfort and joy experienced by her only son, aged nine years, owing to his constant perusal of an excellent periodical for boys which she found recommended in the "Echoes." I am always delighted to give my small word of praise to journals calculated to train the minds of young people in the right direction;—journals that are wholesome, cheerful, and innocent, like the paper alluded to; like *The Boys' Illustrated News*, edited by Captain Mayne Reid and John Latey, jun., of which the first two numbers—bright, cheery, and entertaining, both in text and pictures—are now before me; like the publications of Messrs. Cassell; and like my dear old "Family Herald," in which was published seven and thirty years ago the first story that I ever wrote, and the monthly parts of which I still continue punctually to peruse.

But there must be a surcease in my "Answers to Correspondents." Next week I will endeavour to dispose of a few more kind friends who "Want to Know." I most respectfully beg my readers to bear in mind that I have been unavoidably absent from this page since Saturday, the Twelfth of March. I should have given notice, you may urge, of my intention to elope. Kind ladies and gentlemen, there was in me no guilty intention of running away. I had not the slightest idea of going out of town. In fact, I had made arrangements to deliver, on Saturday, the Nineteenth of March, in the drawing-room of one of the kindest and most hospitable ladies in London, a little twenty-five minutes' lecture called "Down Among the Mormons; or, Life in Salt Lake City." But I reckoned without Fate; and Fate forced

me temporarily to suspend the "Echoes" and to disappoint my kind hostess, who will, I am afraid, never forgive me.

On Sunday, the Thirteenth of March, I was dining at a great house not far from Cavendish-square. Henry Irving, Frank Burnand, Arthur Cecil, and other celebrities were there, with many magnificoes, whom I refrain from naming. Ere we sat down to table came to our host the copy of a telegram from the North to Prince Labanoff. "Sa Majesté est gravement blessée." Thus ran the gist of that fatal message. By-and-bye arrived another despatch of even more direful purport. The Tsar Alexander II. had been assassinated. Immediately, mingled with horror at these appalling tidings, there came over me a mortal terror of the Printer's Devil. I slipped away from the table as soon as I could; and, dreading being run down by the Inky Fiend, conveyed to an office in Fleet-street, and kept until half-past two in the morning writing fantastic biographies of the murdered Emperor, I wandered furtively from club to club, and did not return to my own domicile until it was too late for the P. D. to wreak any harm on me.

But the Sooty Imp ran me down punctually on Monday. He assumed the guise of a person infinitely dearer to me than anyone else in the world. About two o'clock in the afternoon the person, who had been into the City, returned with a message from a Party therein. "Will you write a leading article about regicide?" said the person; "and a sub-leader on the high price of fish? and, after that, will you go to St. Petersburg?" I looked interrogatively at the person. "Yes," was the reply. "It will be dreadfully cold; but this is a case in which you ought to go; and you *must* go." So I pointed to one drawer in a bureau, and said "Passport," and to another drawer, saying "Bank," and so sat down to my work, which I managed to finish by six o'clock. My passport had been *visé* for Russia, letters of credit procured, and all my packing completed while I was writing. I had time to dine comfortably, to run down to a saddler's and purchase a pigskin cigar-case capable of holding twenty-four regalias, and to fill my case at Mr. Carreras', in Princes-street; and at 8.5 p.m., I left Charing-cross for Dover.

So to Ostend. Delightfully calm passage. At noon on Tuesday, Cologne. Lovely spring weather in the Rhine country. At Berlin in time to dine at the Hôtel de Russie. I lost, to my great annoyance, a whole day in the not particularly agreeable capital of the German Kaiser, owing to the stupidity of the railway official at Ostend, who had wrongly registered my luggage. But on Wednesday night I left Berlin for Königsberg; on Thursday, at half-past three, we crossed the Russian frontier at Wierzbolof (German, Wirballen), some five hundred miles from Petersburg; and by half-past six on Friday evening we reached the City of the Tsar itself. From the frontier to the banks of the Neva we found winter, and winter of the Arctic sort.

I spent twelve days of almost unmitigated wretchedness in the splendid metropolis to which I made my first journey nearly five-and-twenty years ago. Anything more intensely mournful and miserable than the aspect of St. Petersburg as I found it during my sojourn it would be difficult to conceive. Opera-houses, theatres, music-halls, all, of course, closed for an indefinite period. Black flags in all the streets. Black Care (apparently) sitting behind the statues of Peter I. and Nicolas I., bestriding their bronze chargers. The hotels crowded to overflowing with grandes bidden to the obsequies of the murdered Tsar, and who were all, seemingly, at a sad loss to know what to do with themselves till the funeral took place. A great deal of heavy eating and drinking of a silent sort going on. Consternation on most official faces. Too many official faces, generally speaking. Too much gendarme. Too much detective policeman. Too much spy. Too much mutual doubt and suspicion. His Imperial Majesty's Gaol, as a whole. That was the complexion to which St. Petersburg for the nonce had come. Sofia Perovskaya and the rest of the Nihilist assassins close prisoners in the casemates of the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul; and the Emperor Alexander III. a prisoner not much less closely kept in the Anitchkoff Palace.

If I had not had a great deal of work by day and by night to do in this City of the Dead I think that I should have gone melancholy mad. As it was I was tied, so to speak, to the tail of a telegraphic wire, and felt uncomfortably galvanic. I used to fancy that the obliging cashier at Messrs. Thomson Bonars', the bankers from whom I was continually drawing large sums of money to pay for telegrams, had an idea that I was speculating on the Stock Exchange, or that I had taken to baccarat or to unlimited loo, and had been hit, heavily. In any case, I should be the most ill-conditioned of curmudgesons were I not to take the earliest opportunity of stating that for whatever success I may have obtained in the performance of a task, full of anxiety and difficulty, I am mainly indebted to the constant kindness and protection of his Excellency the Earl of Dufferin, her Majesty's Ambassador at the Court of St. Petersburg. I have had the honour to know Lord Dufferin for many years; but I lack words to express my gratitude for the invaluable assistance which his Lordship rendered me during a most momentous period.

In literary circles since my home-coming have I heard much talk, and rather unpleasant talk, concerning the not very decorous haste with which publicity was given to the "Reminiscences" of Thomas Carlyle, and the strictures passed therein, of some famous contemporaries of Mr. Carlyle's youth. One admires the genius and venerates the character of the grand old man so deeply that it is wretched to think of him deliberately sitting down ungratefully and unkindly to sneer at and disparage people who were kind to him when he was young, and obscure and poor.

Some passages, however, in these ill-timed "Reminiscences" have naturally provoked Mrs. Anne Benson Procter, the venerable yet brightly valid widow of that charming English lyrist "Barry Cornwall," to print "for private circulation"

certain letters written by Mr. Carlyle between the years 1822 and 1830 to her mother, Mrs. Basil Montagu, and to her husband, Mr. Bryan W. Procter. In just two pages full of scathing indignation Mrs. Procter stigmatizes sundry statements in the "Reminiscences" as "malignant lies;" and she points out that they are calculated to give pain not only to herself but to her children, her grandchildren, and a host of collateral kinsfolk and old friends of Mr. and Mrs. Montagu who are still living.

In the correspondence printed by the righteously wrathful relict of "Barry Cornwall" there is not much beyond expressions of gratitude for favours received, written in terms of so much adulation that one glances at the bottom of some of the sheets to see whether the smooth stuff is signed "Thomas Carlyle" or "Pertinax MacSycophant." Fancy the man who wrote "Sartor Resartus" "boozing" in the following style to Mr. Procter:—

My dear Sir,—I have long felt that I owed you a letter of the kindest thanks. Yet now I am not intending to repay you, but rather to increase my debt by a new request of favours. The case is this. I am since yesterday a candidate for the Moral Philosophy Professorship in the University of St. Andrew's, soon to be vacated by the transference of Dr. Chalmers to Edinburgh, and thus my task for the present is to dun all my friends who have a literary reputation for Testimonials in my behalf. . . . Your friend Mr. Jeffrey is my Palinurus, and forwards me with much heartiness. I may also reckon on the warm support of Wilson, Leslie, Brewster, and other men of mark in this City; and now I am writing to London for yours and Mr. Montagu's. . . . Shall I hope, then, to ornament my little list with two other names?

Thomas Carlyle with "a little list" and in want of names to "ornament" it! Well, what does all this prove? That there are spots on the Sun: not much more, I take it. Will the love and admiration felt by all true Carlylian scholars for the greatest English writer whom this age has seen be diminished one iota by the reminder that he was human, and that to err is human? Who is so sternly wise and upright that he has not had to "boo" now and again? Alighieri himself may have "boozed" when bread was very hard to get. And as for that Bacon, whose works Mr. Basil Montagu edited so nobly, was he not continually bowing himself in the House of Rimmon?

"Echoes from Paris." I am very glad to welcome a *frère*, or rather a sister, in a dainty little periodical, of which the fourth number has just been sent me, with the above title, published by Messrs. Strahan in London, and at Messrs. Galignani's Library in Paris, the chief object of which appears to be the furtherance of the admirable English Church Orphanage and Sanatorium in the French capital—*institutions* for which so much has been done by Miss Ada M. Leigh. These are good "Echoes"—I mean the Parisian ones, and I find in them, in addition to pleasant literary reading, much instructive information touching free registries for governesses and servants, Sunday Schools, a Young Women's Christian Association, Band of Hope meetings, and Bible and Singing classes; all for the benefit of the formerly neglected British community in Paris. *Mademoiselle Echo, j'ai l'honneur de vous sauver.*

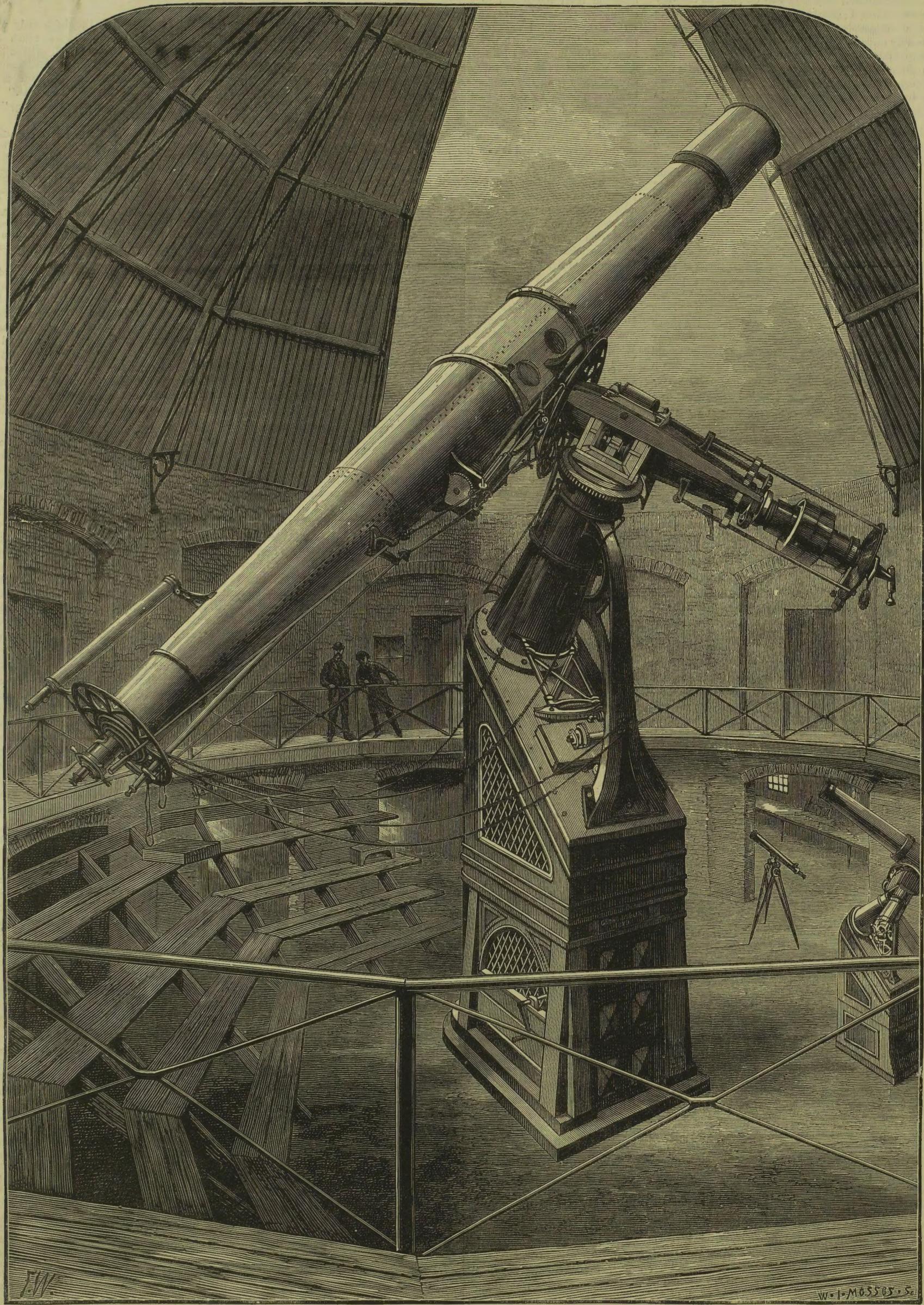
A word or two about clubs. I believe that I am right in stating that his Excellency M. Challemel-Lacour, the Ambassador of France at this Court, has become a member of the Rabelais Club, and may be expected to preside at one of the coming festivals of that convivially eruditely convivial society. Then as regards the much talked about Falstaff Club (they knew all about it in St. Petersburg), I have to state that the club is established; that the transformation of "Evans's" into a palatial mansion will at once commence; and that the committee have begun to elect members. For further particulars apply to the secretary, Piazzas, Covent Garden.

Admirers of Thomas Bewick, the father of the Revival of Wood Engraving in England, and all lovers of beautiful books, will rejoice in the publication, in *édition de luxe* form, by the Fine-Art Society, New Bond-street, of Mr. F. G. Stephens's "Notes on the Collection of Drawings and Wood-cuts" by Bewick, recently exhibited at the Fine-Art Society's rooms. The work also comprises a complete list of all works illustrated by Thomas and John Bewick, with the bibliography of the various editions, and it is illustrated by thirty-two splendid vignettes of "Father Thomas's" own designing and cutting. A choice tome indeed. The only fault I have to find with it is that the cover is a marvellously cunning imitation of antique leather binding, and that this skilfully simulated envelope will have to be stripped off when I send the book to be bound in whole morocco, extra.

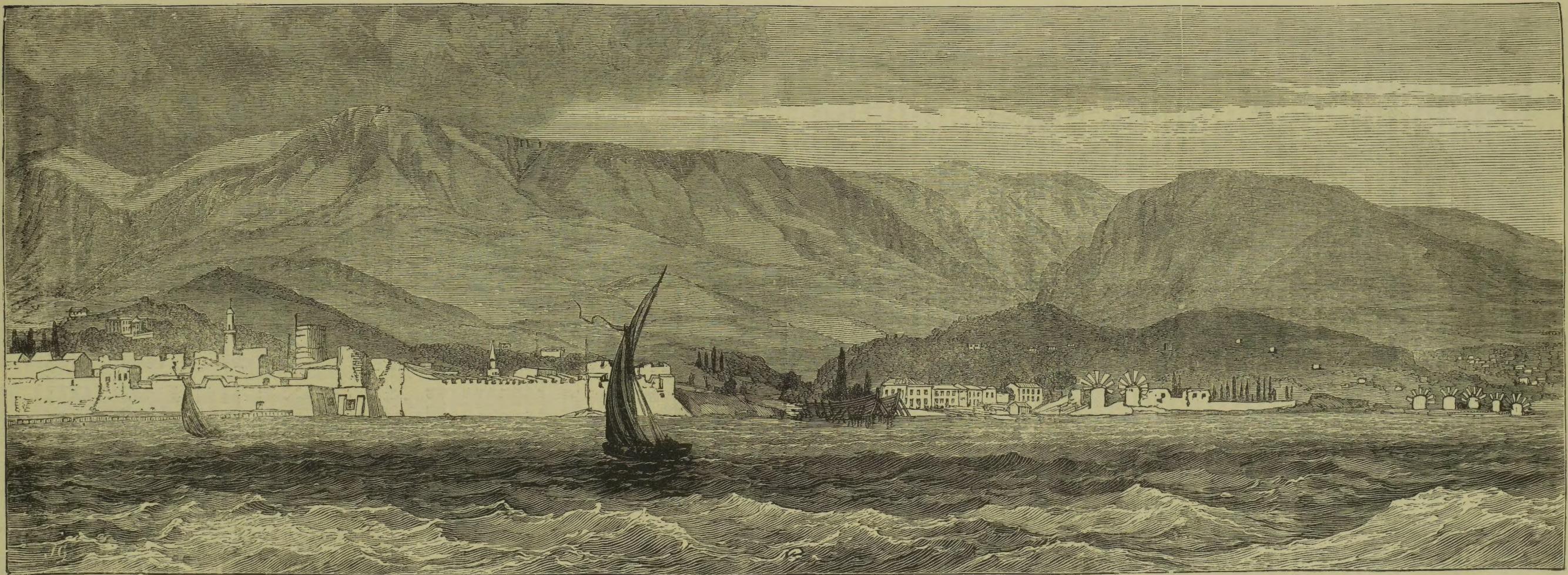
I read about an endeavour to revive what may be termed "political pottery," in a memorial tankard, produced by Messrs. Mortlock at the request of Mr. Milnes Gaskell, in the shape of a triple-handed "tug" of brown Doulton ware, designed to commemorate the return, for the first time in the history of the county of York, of six Liberal members for the West Riding. We have all heard of the "Rodney" Jug and the "Protestant Hero" Jug; but has any collector among my readers met with the ceramic cameo brooch executed by Josiah Wedgwood (was it designed by Flaxman?), and worn by the lady adherents of the Abolition of the Slave Trade? I have not Miss Meteyard's inestimable monograph of Wedgwood by me, and have only read about the cameo in Thomas Clarkson's History of Slave Trade Abolition.

This being Passion Week, we are going to press a day earlier than usual. I came back from Russia in as desperate a hurry as I went there, and have since been too tired to go to the play, save once, last Saturday, to the Haymarket, to see once more the delightful "Masks and Faces," with Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft and Mr. Arthur Cecil and Miss Marion Terry's admirable acting, and Mr. Lewis Wingfield's beautiful (and historically accurate) costumes. So there will be no Playhouses this week. At Easteride I shall begin to grumble again. And, thank you, with all my heart, Mr. Clement Scott, for so promptly, gracefully, and efficiently filling my theatrical stall and the Playhouses column while I was out of town.

P.S.—The title of Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's new and anxiously expected "Comédie Chantante" is, I hear, "Patience; or, Bunthorne's Bride." G. A. S.



THE GREAT REFRACTING TELESCOPE CONSTRUCTED AT DUBLIN FOR THE VIENNA OBSERVATORY.—SEE PAGE 366.



CHIOS, WHERE THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE TOOK PLACE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 3.



CASTRO, ISLAND OF CHIOS, DESTROYED BY THE EARTHQUAKE.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

GREAT ASTRONOMICAL TELESCOPE.

The greatest refracting telescope in the world—Lord Rosse's is a reflecting telescope—has been constructed for the Vienna Observatory by Mr. Howard Grubb, at his celebrated manufactory of astronomical instruments, at Rathmines, near Dublin. It was visited and inspected last week by Earl Cowper, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, who came after dark in the evening, and viewed the moon and planets through this magnificent instrument. We give an illustration, from a sepia drawing of it by Mr. G. Browning; and we abridge the following account of it from descriptions already published:—

The idea of crowning the observatory at Vienna with a refracting telescope of surpassing power was conceived by the Austro-Hungarian Government about five years ago. Such a building was worthy of the best instrument that could be constructed. Every visitor to the Austrian capital must be struck by it, standing upon a site of between fourteen and fifteen acres at a height of 200 ft. above the city, and extending 330 ft. in length and 240 ft. in width. Desiring to possess the finest telescope which could be procured, the Government commissioned Dr. Edward Weiss, now Director-General of the Observatory at Vienna, to visit all the principal observatories and workshops in the world. He recommended that the task should be confided to Mr. Grubb, of Dublin, who was ordered to construct a refracting telescope of at least 26 in. aperture. A commission was appointed by the Austro-Hungarian Government to superintend the work. It was composed of the following gentlemen:—The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, Dr. Higgins, the Earl of Rosse, Professor Stokes, of Cambridge, Professor Ball, Astronomer Royal for Ireland, Dr. Stoney, secretary of the Queen's University in Ireland, many years connected with Lord Rosse's observatory, Dr. E. Reynolds, professor of chemistry, Trinity College, Dublin, and Mr. Walsh, Austro-Hungarian Consul in Dublin. On the 16th ult. the Commissioners reported their unanimous approval of the finished instrument.

The general form of the telescope is that known as Grubb's modified gramma, and is similar to the well-known standard equatorial which he constructed for the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, Dr. Higgins, Oxford University, Berlin, Cork, and other places. It possesses all the modern improvements and special arrangements of an ingenious character, which are rendered desirable by its great size. The length of the tube is 33 ft. 6 in., and the aperture is 27 in. The tube is entirely of steel, 3½ ft. in diameter in the centre, and tapering to each end. The entire moving parts, including the tube, polar, and declination axis, counterpoise and various adjustments weigh between six and seven tons; yet the whole apparatus is under such control that one person can move it about and manipulate it with the utmost ease. The mechanism is remarkable for its solidity and strength, as well as for its exquisite delicacy.

In order to render the motion of such ponderous instruments sufficiently easy, the makers are generally obliged to reduce the diameter of the axes, particularly that known as the declination axis, to an extent that makes one almost alarmed for their safety, to say nothing of their stability. Mr. Grubb, however, has mastered the difficulties of the position by a peculiar and most interesting system of equipoise, by which he is enabled to make his axes so large and solid as to ensure stability and give perfect confidence without sacrificing the ease of motion. The application of antifriction apparatus to the polar axis has been already successfully effected, and was a simple problem, but Mr. Grubb has the exclusive merit of applying it to the declination axis, which is a task of great and complicated difficulty, demanding the highest scientific skill.

Another remarkable feature in the work is the ingenious arrangement by which the circle can be read with the utmost ease and certainty. It is usually a very troublesome operation with large telescopes to read the circle, and when the circles are about 20 ft. or more from the ground the labour and delay which it involves are very formidable. In Mr. Grubb's instrument, the circles are carefully and accurately divided on a band of gold, and by a system of reflectors, at once beautifully simple and ingenious, the observer can without stirring from his chair read all the circles of the instruments through one little reader telescope attached to the side of the main telescope tube.

The setting of the telescope is massive and graceful. The frame on which it rests down to the ground level is of cast iron, and there are chambers of considerable size at the base. In the lower one, which is entered by a door at the end, is a clock for driving the instrument in order to follow the paths of the heavenly bodies. The castings of which the frame is formed are about ten tons weight, and are of simple but not inelegant design. The clockwork is controlled by Mr. Grubb's novel frictional governor, and is also furnished with his new electric control apparatus. There are two right ascension circles, each 2 ft. in diameter, one read from the eye end of the telescope and the other from the ground floor. The declination circle is 5 ft. in diameter, and is read from the eye end of the telescope. All the circles are divided on an alloy of half pure gold and half pure silver, which is found to be very white and not liable to corrode or tarnish.

The material for the object glasses was procured from M. Feil, of Paris. The protracted delay in procuring this material for the work was a subject of great anxiety to Mr. Grubb, and occasioned heavy additional outlay on his part. In October, 1879, however, discs were obtained which in working gave good promise, and in December last he was able to report the work finished, his part of it being, in fact, accomplished in less than half the time stipulated by the agreement with the Austro-Hungarian Government. His task was practically trebled by the difficulty experienced in obtaining pure discs. The success of his undertaking is regarded with great satisfaction and with national pride. He has supplied equipments to most of the modern observatories, but this telescope is his greatest achievement.

Since the erection of the instrument, and its approval by the commission, Mr. Grubb has given as much facility as circumstances would permit to the scientific public for visiting the instrument. Applications for such admissions have enormously outnumbered the number it was possible to accommodate, notwithstanding which some 1500 people have been enabled to satisfy their curiosity within the last few weeks. In the foreground of this illustration is shown an eight-inch equatorial, similar in size to that which Mr. Grubb exhibited at last Paris Exhibition, which obtained the gold medal. Such an instrument would have been considered very large a few years ago, but a comparison of it with the Vienna telescope will give a good idea of the superior proportions of the latter.

In addition to Mr. Gladstone, the Marquis of Hartington and Earl Granville have provisionally accepted invitations for the banquet of the Fishmongers' Company on the 27th inst.

The Duke of Argyll has resigned the office of Lord Privy Seal, on account of a difference with his colleagues on some of the provisions of the Irish Land Bill. Lord Carlingford succeeds him in the office.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN CHIOS.

The most terrible disaster of this kind in recent times, causing the destruction of several thousand human lives, befell the small island of Chios, or Scio, in the Grecian Archipelago, on Sunday week. This is one of the islands still belonging to the Turks in the Aegean Sea, fifty-three miles west of Smyrna, and five miles from Cape Blanco, in Asia Minor. It is about thirty-two miles long and eighteen broad. In the middle ages the island fell into the possession of the Genoese, but in the sixteenth century it was taken by the Turks. In 1822 a Greek force landed on the island, and, being joined by a part of the inhabitants of the chief town, they attacked the citadel and overpowered the small Turkish garrison. This led to a terrible act of retaliation. A Turkish force having landed, the entire island was laid waste, its towns pillaged, and most of the inhabitants either massacred or carried off and sold as slaves. According to the latest information the island had a population of nearly eighty thousand. It has a delightful climate, and the fertility of a great part of its soil has enabled its industrious inhabitants to carry on a considerable trade with Constantinople, Syria, and Egypt. The island claims, in opposition to Smyrna and other places, to have been the birthplace of Homer; and this is alluded to in a familiar line of Byron's "Childe Harold":

The blind old man of Scio's rocky isle.

A correspondent of the *Times*, who has visited Chios, says that such a picture of desolation he had rarely witnessed. "The town looks as if it had been subjected to a terrible bombardment; hundreds of houses have been transformed into a shapeless mass of ruins, under which lie buried an unknown number of victims. A majority of the remaining houses, already cracked and roofless, may fall at any moment. Nearly every building in the town has suffered more or less severely. The unhappy inhabitants wander about, anxious to search for missing relatives and lost property, but afraid to risk their lives in the perilous work of clearing away the rubbish. Many who are willing to expose themselves to the danger are prevented by their friends or the police. Fear, grief, and despair are depicted in nearly every face, and all have some sad or tragic tale to tell. A medical commission is sitting to consider whether it would not be well to refrain from removing the rubbish in the fortress, and cover it over with earth; for there is no hope of saving any lives, and the disinterment of the dead at present might produce epidemic. At present it is believed that throughout the whole island, which contains some 70,000 inhabitants, about six or seven thousand have been killed, and nearly 25 per cent of the survivors wounded. Some wonderful escapes have occurred. One woman was buried under the ruins for fifty-two hours, and at last was rescued, having given birth meantime to a child. The latter is dead, but the mother is doing well."

An account sent by telegraph last Monday states that, of three thousand houses in the town of Castro, not one hundred are now left in a habitable condition. The whole surviving population of the town is camped out in gardens and fields. Some are sheltered in tents and sheds, but others have to lie in the open air with no kind of shelter. A Relief Committee is distributing food to the destitute, and field ovens have been erected for baking bread. Many of the sufferers have been conveyed to Smyrna, but about two hundred are now in hospital at Castro. In addition to these, a large number of sick and injured remain unattended in the fields and in sheds, being unable to get removed to the hospitals, whilst in some cases the people are unwilling to go there owing to fear of the amputation of their limbs. This correspondent has obtained some particulars of the losses in other parts of the island which have suffered most severely. In the district of Kampos, which is south of Castro, there were ten villages. In Kalimasia, the largest of the villages, six hundred and seventy persons were killed, and one hundred and fifty were injured. In four other large villages three hundred and fifty-nine were killed and one hundred and eleven injured. The fact of so large a proportion being killed is explained by the structure of the houses in which the people lived. The houses, which were built of stone and without wood, were mostly very lofty, and in falling they consequently did more destruction. Some idea of the calamity can be formed by comparing these figures with the forty-four villages which have been destroyed. The Convent of Neamonti, built on the slope of the cliff, was swept bodily over a precipice, burying all the inmates except one.

There is great difficulty in sending help to the villagers whose houses have been destroyed, owing to want of communication; but there are numerous relief committees at work in the island, though the confusion is indescribable.

Her Majesty's ship *Thunderer* has been ordered to go from Malta, and the *Bittern* and the *Antelope* have proceeded to the same destination from Constantinople, to assist in relieving the terrible distress now existing in the island. Another ship will be dispatched if required. The Kingdom of Greece as well as the Turkish Government, has sent vessels with provisions and medical men to relieve the sufferers in Chios. The Lord Mayor of London has opened a subscription at the Mansion House, which already amounts to £13,000. There were several renewed shocks of earthquake on Monday last, causing more loss of life.

MUSIC.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

This establishment is to reopen for Italian opera performances on Saturday, May 7, Mr. Mapleson announcing, among other important features, the re-engagement of Madame Christine Nilsson, who is to repeat her fine performance as Margaret and Helen of Troy, in Signor Boito's "Mefistofele," which was brought out at Her Majesty's Theatre so late in last year's season that but few representations could then be given of a work whose success will doubtless render it a source of repeated attraction.

Another important feature in Mr. Mapleson's programme is the promised revival of Rossini's "Semiramide," with the title-character filled—for the first time—by Madame Nilsson, who will doubtless give its full musical and dramatic significance to the part.

Madame Gerster is named as the representative of the heroine in the probable production of a new grand opera composed by Baron Bodog D'Orczy (an Hungarian amateur), Italianised as "Il Rinnegato," the overture to which has already been heard at our New Philharmonic and Crystal Palace Concerts.

Other more or less familiar and welcome names in the list of engagements are those of Madame Trebelli, Mdlles. Lehmann, Tremelli, De Belocca, Vanzandt, Ricci, Dotti, and Valgera; Signori Campanini, Faneelli, Iuncio, Ravelli, and Mr. Maas, Signori Galassi, Del Puente, Rota, Nannetti, and Monti—Signori Corsini and Novara being announced to make their first appearances.

The orchestra and chorus will be similar to those of past seasons, and the office of musical director and conductor is again to be worthily filled by Signor Arditi—occasionally relieved by Signor Faccio—Madame Katti Lanner continuing

her skilled superintendence of the ballet department, in which Mdlle. Cavalazzi's name reappears as principal dancer.

During the season, concerts are to be given at the Royal Albert Hall and St. James's Hall, supported by the principal artists of the company.

Last week's concert of the Bach Choir—the second of this year's series—opened with a performance of Bach's *Sanctus* in D, for four-part chorus, orchestra and organ; the orchestral accompaniments having been rewritten by Mr. E. Prcut; in which shape the work was given by the same society last year, when we commented on its merits. The "Sanctus" was followed by Handel's "Alexander's Feast," ending with the grand chorus, "Let old Timotheus," one of the many special examples of the composer's powers in fugal writing. In this, in the beautiful movement (on a "ground bass") "The many rend the skies," and in one or two other instances, the chorus-singing was more satisfactory than it had been in the "Sanctus." The vocal solos in Handel's work were effectively rendered by Mrs. Osgood, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley. The concert closed with Brahms's "Requiem," a work which has too often been noticed by us to need fresh remark now. The choral portions were generally well sung, as were the incidental solo passages which were assigned to Mrs. Osgood and Mr. Santley. Mr. Otto Goldschmidt conducted and Mr. T. Pettit presided at the organ and the pianoforte. Bach's mass in B minor is to be given by the choir at the next concert, on May 18.

On Thursday week the Philharmonic Society gave the fourth concert of the sixty-ninth season, the programme having included a repetition of Berlioz's "Romeo and Juliet" symphony. Of the production of this remarkable and elaborate work, and its highly effective performance at the second concert, we spoke at the time. Its second rendering here presented the same merits as before, the solo singers on this occasion having been Miss Hope Glenn, Mr. F. Boyle, and Signor Ghilberti. Madame Montigny-Rémaury gave an excellent performance of Beethoven's first pianoforte concerto (in C major); and the overture to Mozart's "Le Nozze di Figaro," and that to Wagner's "Tannhäuser," completed the instrumental selection. Mr. Sims Reeves sang, with fine expression, Beethoven's "Liederkreis" and two songs by Schubert and Mendelssohn, well accompanied by Mr. Coenen. Mr. Cusins conducted the orchestral performances with his usual ability.

A few lines may suffice to record the fine performance of Mr. Arthur Sullivan's sacred musical drama, "The Martyr of Antioch," at the Royal Albert Hall on Thursday week, conducted by the composer, the principal solo vocalists having been Mesdames Albani and Patey, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. F. King, as at the production of the work at last year's Leed's festival, and recently at St. James's Hall. The Prince of Wales was present. The first part of the concert was appropriated to Brahms' "Song of Destiny," conducted by Mr. Barnby. The chorus-singing in each work was especially good.

Handel's "Samson" (with Sir M. Costa's additional accompaniments) was performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society yesterday (Friday) week. The oratorio contains some of its composer's finest choral writing, and this was effectively rendered on the occasion now referred to, particularly the movements "Then round about the starry throne," "Fix'd in His everlasting seat," and "Let their celestial concert." Miss A. Marriott was greatly applauded for her delivery of the air "Let the bright seraphim" (with the skilful trumpet obbligato of Mr. T. Harper)—other effective solo performances having been those of Madame Patey in the contralto solos, especially "Return, O God of Hosts;" of Mr. Maas in the air "Total eclipse," "Why does the God of Israel sleep?" and "Thus when the sun," Mr. Bridson in the martial song "Honour and arms," and Mr. F. King in the air "How willing my paternal love." The duet, "Go, baffled coward" (Mr. Maas and Mr. Bridson) was encored. Sir M. Costa conducted, and Mr. Willing presided at the organ, as usual.

Last Saturday's Crystal Palace concert brought forward M. Tivadar Nächéz, a violinist, who appeared for the first time there, and was favourably received in his execution of Mendelssohn's concerto and some characteristic Hungarian gipsy dances of the player's own composition. Of his merits we must await another opportunity to speak in detail. Neither the orchestral nor the vocal selection contained any absolute novelty, the latter having been well rendered by Mdlle. Pyk.

The twenty-third season of the Popular Concerts closed on Monday evening, the last afternoon performance having taken place on the previous Saturday. On each occasion Madame Schumann and Herr Joachim contributed to a programme of special interest, although devoid of novelty. On Monday the lady played, with fine effect, Robert Schumann's charming pieces for pianoforte solo, entitled "Carnaval," Herr Joachim and Herr Straus having given an admirable rendering of one of Spohr's duets for two violins. The first-named gentleman was associated with Miss Zimmermann in some of Brahms's Hungarian dances arranged for violin and pianoforte, the lady having played, with much effect, two movements for piano solo by Bach and Scarlatti. Another specialty was Signor Piatti's exquisite performance, on the violoncello, of two extracts from a sonata by Veracini. Beethoven's string quartet in E flat, op. 74 (by the gentlemen already named and Mr. L. Ries), and vocal pieces expressively sung by Mdlle. Pyk, completed an excellent concert. Mr. Zerbini was the accompanist, as usual. The resumption of these performances, early in November, will be eagerly looked for.

A concert, including the co-operation of many eminent artists, was announced to be given at St. James's Hall on Thursday evening, for the benefit of that excellent institution the Metropolitan Police Orphanage.

A concert was announced for Tuesday evening by the Kensington Amateur Orchestral Society. The performances, at the new Townhall, were for the benefit of the Industrial Home for Crippled Boys, Kensington.

"The Messiah" was performed on Good Friday evening by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, under the conductorship of Mr. Barnby. The solo vocalists were Miss Anna Williams, Madame Patey, Mr. Maas, and Mr. Thurley Beale.

Much interest is felt in the forthcoming farewell oratorio performances of Mr. Sims Reeves at the Royal Albert Hall, the dates of which are the evenings of April 27, May 4, 18, and 25, June 15, 22, and 29, and the morning of July 9. The concerts are to be given by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, conducted by Mr. Barnby, and the list of solo singers includes the names of Mesdames Albani, Christine Nilsson, Trebelli, and Patey, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. Santley, and Signor Foli. "Judas Maccabeus" is the oratorio selected for the first concert.

The Festival of the Three Choirs has been fixed to be held at the cathedral in Worcester in the first week in September next, and the preliminary arrangements are being forwarded, the following leading vocalists having just been engaged:—Madame Albani, Madame Patey, Miss Hilda Wilson, Miss Anna Williams, Miss Annie Marriott, and Mr. E. Lloyd as leading tenor. The other tenors and basses are not yet named. The band is made up, chiefly from London, with M. Sainton as leader. The chorus will be on the usual scale of efficiency.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Monday, April 11.

The Tunisian question is naturally uppermost in the public mind at the present moment. On Thursday the Chamber granted the credits demanded by the Ministers of War and Marine "for repressing, with all the vigour that the situation demands, the acts that have been committed on the frontiers of Algeria on the confines of the Regency of Tunis." It must be remarked that up to the present the expedition against the Kroumirs is not characterised as a war; if it were a "war" the terms of the Constitution would require the consent of the Chambers before operations could be begun. The credits demanded were, it may be remarked, comparatively small—four millions of francs for the Minister of War and 1,695,276f. for the Minister of Marine. The attitude of the Bey of Tunis seems likely to render the Tunisian question more serious than the French authorities at first anticipated. An anti-French feeling still predominates in Tunisian territory, and the Italian Consul Maccio is agitating amongst the Arab populations by means of a journal, the *Mustakel*, which preaches a holy war against the French. Great indignation is shown by the press at the Bey's refusal to co-operate with France in punishing the Kroumirs, and at the protest against France which he has addressed to the Powers. The part which the Italians are taking in the anti-French agitation is also severely commented upon.

The affairs of Tunis and the dispatch of French forces to the Algerian frontier have provoked another campaign of hardly less interest to the French public; it is the campaign undertaken by several moderate journals against the slowness of the Ministry of War. This little expedition, as *La France* observes, is a thermometer which all Europe is watching with anxiety. If this thermometer allows a doubt as to the energy or decision of France everything is possible. Strange stories are told of disorganisation at the War Office, of stupid orders, of unaccountable delays. In dealing with a tribe like the Kroumirs the Minister of War surely ought not to require a fortnight to know where to find his soldiers. One thing is certain, the greater the delay before energetic and active measures are taken, the more complicated the matter becomes. If France had dispatched forces at once, instead of being obliged to make a great stir and fuss in her arsenals and ports for a fortnight together, the European press would not have had time to comment and put insidious interpretations upon preparations that are, after all, up to the present at least, not very formidable.

On Saturday the Chamber of Deputies began the discussion of the report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the charges brought against General de Cissey. The outlines of this affair, which made so much noise in the Parisian press last year, are doubtless fresh in the reader's mind. General de Cissey was accused of treason direct and of indirect treason, through his relations with the Baroness de Kaulla, the separated wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Jung, who was declared to be a Prussian spy, and a person who had already been the subject of police surveillance. These charges were brought by certain journals, notably by M. Henri Rochefort, with a levity and obstinacy only equalled by their total lack of evidence. The Parliamentary Committee, after a long and searching inquiry, have found that all the charges made against General de Cissey were groundless. The Chamber unanimously adopted the conclusion that General de Cissey was not guilty of treason. There was a charge of malversation brought against the General, on which the Chamber will hear a long report to-morrow. But in reality the De Cissey affair is at an end. The Parisian press, as a whole, comes out of the matter with a terrible slur. How can the public have confidence in papers which so readily give credence to the vaguest and the most groundless calumny?

The progress of the seasons and the course of the year is marked in the external life of Paris by a succession of little events which are to the longer—the *flâneur* as the French say—a sovereign remedy against *ennui*. The Parisians retain a certain rusticity in their observance of feasts and fasts, and they look forward to their annual fairs with the expectation of country people. Now is the time of the annual ham and pork fair, and of the gingerbread fair, which take place on the Boulevard Richard Lenoir and around the Place du Trône, and on the road to Vincennes. Yesterday the streets were full of people carrying sprigs of boxwood which had been dipped in holy water, and which are esteemed a better remedy against fire than any fire-engine ever invented, the theory being that prevention is better than cure. In the confectioners' and toy-shops *poissons d'avril* have yielded the place to Easter eggs. Almost every week in the year is marked by some little observance of this kind. As for the ham fair, it is a most curious sight, and succulent and appetising withal, for the French in the matter of cooking and preparing the pig, and in the *charcutier's* art, have long been famous. They do not make good bacon, but in the varieties of sausages, *rillettes*, *hures*, *brauns*, &c., they excel. The gingerbread fair is one of the largest fairs in existence. The mystery is what becomes of the vast quantities of gingerbread sold? Imagine that for several centuries past the town of Reims has been gravely occupied in manufacturing this ridiculous mixture of honey and rye, and moulding quaint statues in the style of Epinal images!

The opening of the Salon is looked forward to with great expectation in the artistic world. This year, for the first time, the artists have managed the whole affair without the intervention of the Government. The juries have been elected by the artists themselves; all privileges have been abolished, and every picture has been admitted exclusively on its own merits. It was decided that the number of oil-paintings admitted should be limited to 2500. On Saturday last the jury finished its operations, having chosen only 2420 pictures. A part of the jury wished to make a new revision in order to make up the number of 2500, but the majority was opposed to this revision. It is needless to say that the jury has been very severe, and amongst the artists whose works have been refused are not a few who have hitherto been exempt from examination and figured as "Hors Concours." This year it is expected that the Salon will gain in quality what it loses in quantity.

In England as in France, people talk a great deal about Zola without having read his books; he is just as much the hero of a fantastic legend on the other side of the Channel as he is on this side. The so-called disciples of Zola are the victims of the same indifference of the public to truth. In time, perhaps, the critics and *chroniqueurs*, the *gommeneux* and club-men, will grow tired of feeble joking and affected disgust, and read the literature of the young generation before they talk about it. I permit myself to make these remarks *à propos* of the publication of two volumes—one a novel, "Une Belle Journée," by Henry Céard, the other a volume of dramatic criticism, in which M. Emile Zola discusses some of his most famous contemporaries, called "Nos Auteurs Dramatiques." Both these volumes are published by Charpentier, of Paris. T. C.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

SPAIN.

A brilliant ceremony took place in the Palace at Madrid last Saturday, on the occasion of the official investiture of the little Princess of the Asturias. The Ministers, the Grandees, and a great number of ladies attended in the Presence Chamber, where the King and Queen received a deputation with presents from the province of Asturias. The Queen placed on the Princess's breast the Cross of Pelayo, and requested that the money offering might be given to the historical shrine of Cavadonga. The King made an eloquent address to the Commissioners.

The Mayor of Seville telegraphs that the waters are retreating and that the alarm has passed. A "Te Deum" had been sung in the cathedral, and active preparations were being made for the processions of Holy Week and the festivities of Easter. The losses from the floods are considerable.

ITALY.

At the opening of the sitting of the Chamber of Deputies yesterday week Signor Cairoli announced that, in consequence of the vote on the Tunisian question, the Ministry had placed their resignation in the hands of the King. Signor Cairoli begged the Chamber in the meantime to continue its labours, and proceed with the discussion of bills of an administrative character. In Saturday's sitting a grant of 50,000 lire was voted for the International Geographical Congress at Venice. The Senate has passed a bill abolishing the forced paper currency.

The Chambers have adjourned until after Easter, and in the meantime the new Ministry will be constructed.

GERMANY.

The Emperor gave a dinner on the 7th inst. to a select company of forty, amongst the guests being Count Münster, and General Prince Suvaroff, the special Envoy of the Czar, with his companion, Colonel Prince Engalitcheff. The Emperor conferred high decorations upon them, and they left Berlin on Sunday for Rome.

The Crown Prince of Denmark left Berlin on Sunday afternoon for Denmark, after having paid and received the usual courtly attentions, among these being a visit to both Prince Bismarck and Marshal Moltke.

Generals Tschertkoff and Prince Galitzin arrived at Berlin yesterday week from Russia on a special mission; and General von Werder, the Military Representative of the German Emperor at St. Petersburg, has also made his appearance there.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

In the sitting of the Upper House of the Reichsrath yesterday week the discussion of Herr Leinbacher's School Bill was continued, and the draught of the majority of the Committee, which essentially modifies the bill as passed by the Lower House, was adopted by 77 votes against 32.

The Austrian Parliament has risen for the Easter vacation.

The Legislature will reassemble on the 27th inst.

A convention for the conversion of the Six per Cent Hungarian Gold Rente into Four per Cents was concluded yesterday week between the Hungarian Minister of Finance and a syndicate composed of Messrs. Rothschild and the Credit Anstalt.

About 100,000 acres of arable land in Hungary have been flooded by an overflow of the Theiss, owing to the breaking of a dam at Merezel.

INDIA.

The *Times* correspondent at Candahar telegraphs that the evacuation of the city was to begin on the 13th inst., and to be completed by the 22nd. A portion of General Hume's force will remain at Quetta. The *Calcutta* correspondent of the same paper says that the rumours of Ayoub Khan's desperate position at Herat are not confirmed.

Sir Frederick Haines, the late Commander-in-Chief in India, left Bombay on the 7th inst. for England. Full military honours were accorded him on his departure.

The revenue of Nova Scotia for the current year is estimated at 506,000 dols., and the expenditure at 504,000 dols.

The Indiana House of Assembly has, by a large majority, passed a resolution conferring upon women the right to vote at State elections.

A shock of earthquake was felt throughout the centre of California at two o'clock on Sunday morning; but no serious damage was done.

Sir Robert Biddulph, the High Commissioner in Cyprus, attended the examination of the scholars at the English public school at Nicosia on Friday evening, and expressed his great satisfaction at the rapid progress made by the pupils.

Among tokens of the vitality of the International Exhibition at Melbourne is the appearance of a paper called "The Exhibition Visitors' Programme," extending to eight pages, and published daily. The "Programme," which comprises much information concerning the exhibition and the sights and amusements of Melbourne and its neighbourhood, had reached on March 2 its 129th number.

The *Cologne Gazette* says that a colossal statue of the Norwegian poet Herik Wergeland, who was born in 1808 and died in 1845, has been erected at Christiania, on the Eidsvoldplatz, opposite the Storthing. It is to be unveiled on May 17, the date on which, in 1814, the first Norwegian Storthing, at Eidsvold, accepted the National Constitution. Bjornson, who is at present in America, is to deliver the festal speech.

Mr. Suter, an Englishman, the agent of a mining company near Salónica, has been carried off by a band of brigands, who demand £15,000 for his ransom, and threaten all kinds of fearful reprisals in event of non-payment. Mrs. Suter was also seized by the brigands, but was subsequently released. Mr. Suter was for some time during the Russo-Turkish war an assistant correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* in the Dobrudsha, and proved himself courageous and enterprising. Mr. Goschen has informed the Porte that he must hold it responsible for the safety of Mr. Suter and for the payment of the ransom demanded by the brigands.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

The Easter Volunteer Review, at Brighton, or elsewhere, has usually occasioned, in former years, some interesting scenes at the departure of several "crack" London Volunteer Corps, a day or two beforehand, from the Victoria station, or by other routes, chosen at their own discretion. But there is a considerable change in the arrangements for this week; and the following is the general plan, issued by Lieutenant-Colonel Drew on Monday, for a combined advance on Brighton by a force consisting of detachments of the 1st London Engineers, 1st Middlesex Engineers, 3rd Middlesex Artillery, 8th Surrey Rifles, 4th Middlesex Rifles, and 10th Middlesex Rifles, to commence on Good Friday:—"The troops are to leave by train from London Bridge and Victoria on Good Friday morning, and on arrival at Three Bridges will be formed in brigade on the open land south of the Crawley-road, about 300 yards from the railway bridge, to the west, in line

of quarter columns facing south, Artillery on the right, Engineers and the provisional battalion of Rifles of the right and left columns in succession to the left. The columns will advance with every precaution as to advanced guards and patrols. A short halt will be made every hour for about five minutes. Each hour's march will cover about two miles and a half, and at each halt the advanced party will be relieved, and at every other halt both the support and advanced party will be changed. Small patrols will be furnished from the supports, and strong patrols from the reserve. By this arrangement it is suggested that each corps will march under its own officers and have its share of the work and interest of the march. On the first day there is to be a combined advance on Cuckfield by the two roads running east and west of Tilgate Forest." Our Illustration shows the scene at the departure of the Artists' Corps from the Victoria station.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

In spite of the hardness of the ground, which is by no means in a fit state for steeplechasing or even hurdle-jumping, a capital little meeting took place at Warwick at the end of last week. Sir George Chetwynd is in such wonderful form just now that nothing was backed with any spirit for the Leamington Hurdle Handicap except Gil Blas (11 st. 1 lb.), who, however, tired dreadfully in the run in, and was easily beaten by Episcopus (10 st. 7 lb.). Still, two events fell to the popular Baronet during the afternoon, and, in the Stoneleigh Plate, Comely, fresh from her Northampton victory, but with all the worst of the weights, made short work of the Pero Gomez—Lady of the Lea colt, who gained a cheap reputation by running away from a very moderate field at Liverpool. Old Cock Robin (10 st. 11 lb.) was very well in the chief steeplechase, and made the running at a pace that had quite settled his two opponents when it came to racing; and the unfashionably bred Selred took a couple of events, including the chief handicap. The Hunters' Steeplechase went to Professor, who, though he carried a welter weight and was running beyond his distance, had really nothing to beat.

Messrs. Barber and Jones were successful in promoting a very good meeting at Alexandra Park on Friday and Saturday last, the attendance on the latter day being, perhaps, the best on record. Backers had a wonderfully good time of it, and Wood, who has made a grand beginning this season, rode no less than four winners on the second day.

The thirty-seventh race between Oxford and Cambridge, or what is commonly known as the "battle of the blues," took place on Friday morning last, and the result once more proved the truth of the saying that the public are the best judges of public form. The Oxonians were established firm favourites very early in the year—in fact, from the moment speculation was indulged in—a position which they held right up to the finish of the struggle, and fully justified. Five steam-boats were chartered and allowed to accompany the race, one for the umpire, Mr. R. L. Lloyd, two for the 'Varsities, the fourth carrying the representatives of the press, and an extra craft for the convenience of the old "Blues," who on Thursday celebrated a postponed jubilee of the first inter-'Varsity race. These were all in position before a quarter past eight o'clock. Soon after this the rivals made their appearance, and paddled to their respective stations, Oxford having won the toss, of course selecting the sheltered Middlesex side of the river. At 8.34, everything being ready, Mr. Searle, who was stationed in a waterman's boat between the two crews, gave the usual word "Go!" and the struggle commenced, with such an utter absence of flurry or hurry, that one could scarcely realise that the start had taken place. The Oxford stroke got the first grip of the water, striking at the rate of 36 strokes per minute, whilst the Light Blues were taking a stroke less. At the London Rowing Club's boat-house they were as nearly as possible dead level, both rowing cleanly, and without any splashing or irregularity. The Oxonians made the Bishop's Creek in 1 min. 20 sec.; and were there leading by about six feet only, but were holding their place at 34 strokes to the others' 36 per minute. Approaching the Concrete Wall, Cambridge looked like drawing up, and were almost level by the old half-mile post. By the top of the Concrete Wall Oxford were some six yards in front, and this was not altered as the Grass Wharf was passed, in 4 min. 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec. Up to this time there were not any signs of weakness or failing in either boat, Cambridge performing fully up to the form shown in their trials, whilst their opponents were exhibiting far better style and pace than they were ever credited with possessing. Passing the Soap Works, reached in 7 min. 13 sec., the Dark Blues still held an advantage of about six yards, which, however, on West spurting, was converted into a good half length as Hammersmith Bridge was shot. From this point the race was never in doubt, and, although the Cantabs struggled gamely, and fought for every inch of water, Oxford steadily forged ahead, and ultimately passed the post at Mortlake the easiest of winners by about three lengths, the time occupied in covering the course being 21 min. 52 sec.

The Old Carthusians and Old Etonians played off the final tie of the English Association Challenge Cup at Kennington Oval on Saturday afternoon, and, after a good game which lasted an hour and a half, the former team won by three goals to none. The losers tried their best, but were fairly beaten by want of condition before half time was called. The match was witnessed by upwards of five thousand spectators, and the following are the names and positions of the teams:—

Old Carthusians: L. F. Gillett (goal), E. G. Colvin and W. H. Norris (backs), J. F. M. Prinsep and J. Vincent (half-backs), E. H. Parry (captain) and A. H. Tod (lefts), W. R. Page and E. G. Wynyard (centres), W. E. Hensell and L. M. Richards (rights).

Old Etonians: Hon. A. F. Kinnaird (captain) and B. Farrer (half-backs), C. W. Foley and T. H. Trench (backs), J. P. Rawlinson (goal), R. H. Macaulay and H. E. Goodhart (centres), H. E. Whitfield and P. C. Novelli (lefts), W. J. Anderson and J. B. T. Chevallier (rights).

On Tuesday afternoon the annual four-handed racquet-match between the representatives of Oxford and Cambridge was decided at Prince's Club, Han's-place, Belgravia. Messrs. C. T. Studd (Trinity) and A. G. Steel (Trinity Hall) represented Cambridge, whilst the Oxford pair were C. F. H. Leslie (Oriel) and M. C. Kemp (Hertford). Contrary to general expectations, the match proved a most one-sided affair, as the two Cantabs, playing in most brilliant form, scored an easy victory by four games to one. The umpires were Messrs. Alfred Lyttelton and W. E. Dennison.

The trial of Mrs. Susan Willis Fletcher for defrauding Mrs. Hart-Davies of £10,000 worth of jewellery, at the Central Criminal Court, was brought to a close on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Justice Hawkins having summed up, the jury found the defendant guilty on the first, second, third, and fourth counts. They also found her guilty of conspiring with her husband and Morton to secure the making of the will. She was sentenced to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for twelve months.



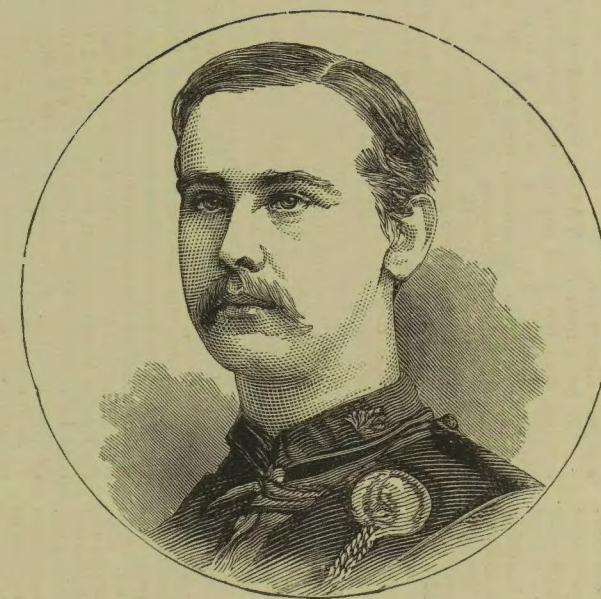
THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW: DEPARTURE OF THE ARTISTS CORPS FROM VICTORIA RAILWAY STATION.—SEE PAGE 367.

OFFICERS KILLED IN THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

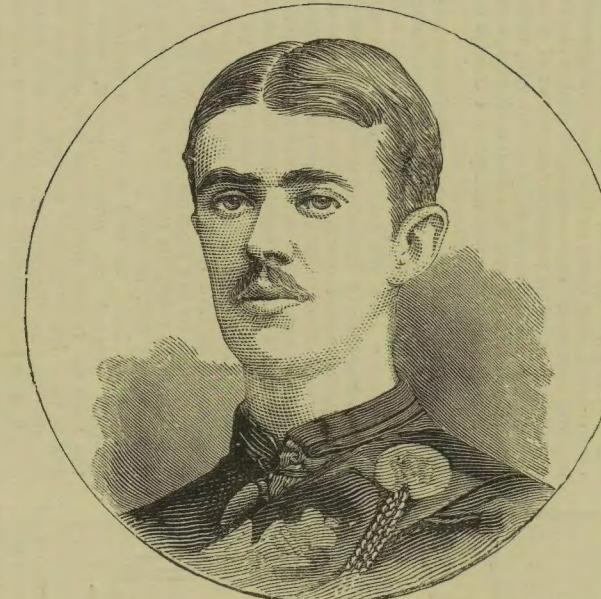
We present the portraits of two more officers who have fallen during the recent campaign against the Boers of the Transvaal on the Natal border.

In the late General Sir George Colley's despatch to the War Office, after his second disastrous action, on Feb. 8, at Schain's Hooge and the Ingogo river, that unfortunate commander said:—"The third battalion of the 60th Rifles has suffered a still heavier loss in the death of its Adjutant, Lieutenant Wilkinson, after having distinguished himself through the engagement by his coolness and gallantry, volunteering for every difficult and dangerous task. He was drowned in crossing the Ingogo river after returning to the battle-field with assistance for the wounded. He was of singularly winning disposition and manners, distinguished in all manly games, an excellent adjutant, and a most promising officer. Few men of his standing could boast so many and such warm friends, or will be so widely missed and deeply mourned."

Lieutenant Edward Obert Hindley Wilkinson was the only surviving son and heir of R. Hindley Wilkinson, Esq., of Chesfield, near Stevenage, J.P. for Herts and Bedfordshire, and late Lieutenant-Colonel of the Bedfordshire Militia, and of Caroline his wife, daughter of Lieutenant-



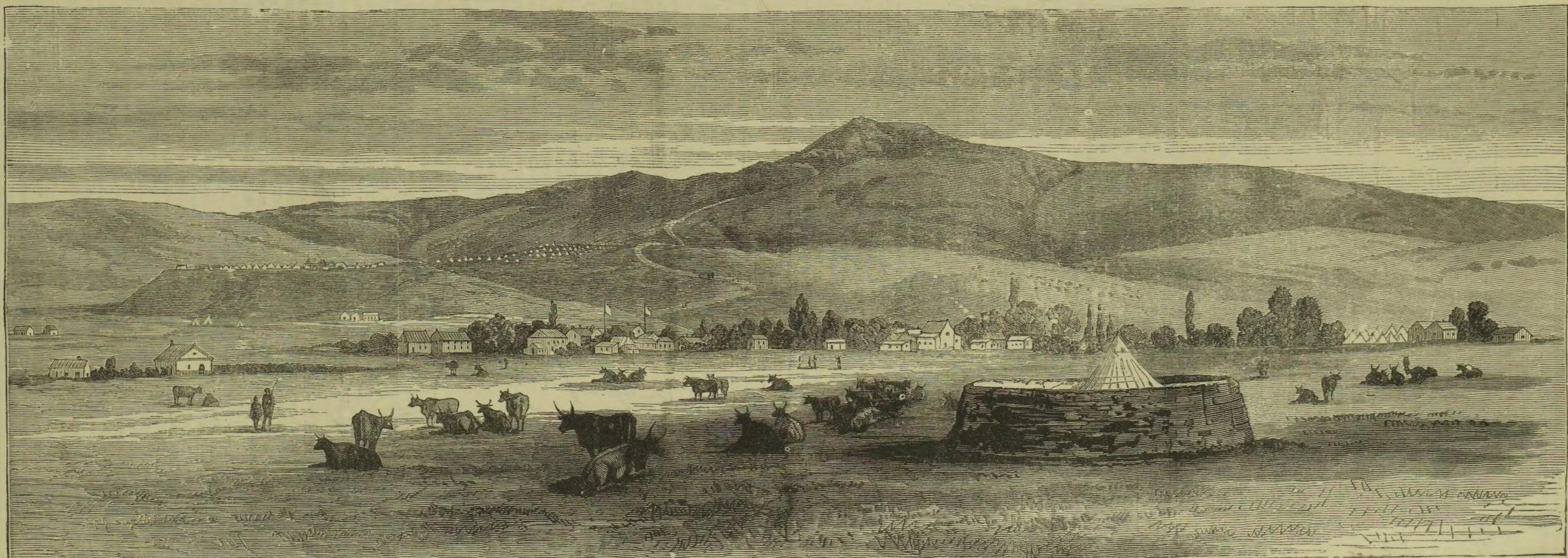
THE LATE LIEUTENANT E. O. H. WILKINSON.



THE LATE LIEUTENANT MAURICE O'CONNELL.

General Le Vicomte Obert, late Governor of the Military College of St. Cyr. He was born in October, 1853, was educated at Eton, was captain of the Eton Eleven, and played in the Eton and Harrow match in the years 1871-2. He entered the Army in 1873 as a Sub-Lieutenant in the 60th King's Royal Rifle Corps, and was Adjutant of the third battalion of his regiment from 1875 to the time of his death. He served during the Zulu war, and was present at the battle of Ginghilovo and the relief of Ekowe. The official despatch from the General Officer Commanding in Natal states that Lieutenant Wilkinson lost his life while crossing the flooded stream for the purpose of taking aid to the wounded, three officers and fifty-two men of them being of Lieutenant Wilkinson's regiment.

Among those killed in action the same day was Lieutenant Maurice O'Connell, also of the 60th Rifles. He was eldest son of Sir Maurice James O'Connell, Bart., of Lake View, Killarney, in the county of Kerry. He entered the Army from the Kerry Militia on Jan. 22, 1879. He served with the third battalion of the Rifles throughout the Zulu war, and obtained the medal and clasp granted to the troops engaged in it. In December last Lieutenant O'Connell was at Durban, under orders to embark for England in charge of invalids, when intelligence reached that station of the outbreak of hostilities in the Transvaal. He instantly applied for and obtained permission



THE TRANSVAAL WAR: VIEW OF NEWCASTLE FROM FORT TERROR.
FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST—SEE NEXT PAGE.

to proceed to the front, where he was present at the engagement of Laing's Neck on Jan. 28. The high popularity which Lieutenant O'Connell had gained in the militia corps of his native county followed him into the Rifles, where he speedily won the esteem of both officers and men by his warm-hearted and generous disposition. He was but twenty-two years of age when he was killed in battle; and few of the gallant soldiers who fell in this last South African war will be more sincerely regretted, as well in the regiment as amongst those who knew him at home.

THE SILENT MEMBER.

Parliament separated on April 8 for the Easter vacation. When the House of Lords meets again, Lord Carlingford will appear on the Ministerial bench in the place of the Duke of Argyll, who has resigned the post of Lord Privy Seal, as his Grace explained yesterday week, in consequence of differences with his colleagues regarding the principle of the Irish Land Bill. Ere their Lordships adjourned for May 5, Earl Granville (happily, no longer confined to his house by a bronchial attack) announced that he would on the day the House reassembled move a vote of thanks to Sir Frederick Roberts—not for his pleasure trip to the Cape, but for his services in Afghanistan. One familiar voice will, there is but too much reason to fear, be missed on this ceremonial occasion. When, in the early part of the Session, the Earl of Beaconsfield spoke with his old vigour and ironic humour in more than one debate, and was seen in the peers' gallery of the Lower House grimly smiling down upon the Irish Home Rulers who had overtaxed the patience of the House by carrying organised obstruction beyond the limit of endurance, no one who observed the serenity with which his Lordship appeared to bear his seventy-five years could have expected that the East winds of March would have so completely prostrated

the Leader of the Conservative party that the whole country would, with anxious interest, be regarding each new bulletin issued concerning the varying state of the distinguished patient's health. The Mayfair mansion which Lord Beaconsfield sought to make the rallying-point of his Party has been visited by numberless personages of all shades of politics. Lord Rowton (represented in the act of handing a bulletin to a policeman at the door of the house in Curzon-street) hastened back from the Continent last week; but could not see his illustrious friend till Monday last, when he had the satisfaction to learn for himself that the noble Earl was better.

The Prime Minister—last summer and a short time ago as much an object of public solicitude on the score of his health as the Earl of Beaconsfield now is—can rarely have displayed his extraordinary powers to greater advantage than he did in the two great speeches he made last week. Mr. Gladstone has richly earned his Easter holiday at Hawarden; and we may all hope he will return like a giant refreshed when the House reassembles on Monday, April 25. The Budget speech of the Monday was equalled in grasp of subject by the eloquent address introductory of the Irish Land Bill on Thursday week. The vital feature of the Ministerial measure is the appointment of a Land Court empowered to settle differences between landlord and tenant; to fix a "judicial rent" which will hold for fifteen years, during which there could be no eviction save for the non-payment of rent and other breaches of contract; to grant tenant-right also to holders against whom actions for ejection may have been unjustly commenced but not completed before the passing of the bill. The Court will consist of three members, with power to name assistant-commissioners. The Court will also be a Land Commission to aid tenants to buy their farms or estates from willing landlords by lending them three fourths of the purchase-money; and to grant advances for agricultural improvements, emigration, and reclamation of waste lands. Mr. Gladstone's fine speech lasted two hours and a quarter. It was listened to by a thronged House; was cheered in passages by the Irish members; and was animated with a lofty spirit, which, it will be seen, was maintained to the very close:

Justice, Sir, is to be our guide. It has been said that love is stronger than death; and so justice is stronger than popular excitement, than the passion of the moment, even than the grudges, the resentments, and the sad traditions of the past. Walking in that path we cannot err; guided by that light—that Divine light—we are safe. Every step that we take on our road is a step that brings us nearer to the goal; and every obstacle, even although it seem for the moment to be insurmountable, can only for a little while retard, and never can defeat the final triumph (Loud cheers).

Mr. Dodson the same evening managed to secure the second reading of the Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention Bill, the object of which is to establish one conservancy board for the better management of rivers. Mr. Chamberlain the following evening introduced that much-needed measure a Bankruptcy Bill, which aims at simplifying



the monstrous system under which gigantic fraud has grown up. This was the last important piece of business transacted before the House adjourned until Monday week, April 25.

Whilst hon. members hasten to the country, anywhere out of the town, the urbane Speaker and over-worked officials of the Commons do not hesitate to follow so seasonable an example. Captain Gosset, the veteran Serjeant-at-Arms, is wont in the recess to seek renewed vigour (as suggested in the Sketch) at favourite south-coast Watering-Place. Whether he is staying there or at some other salubrious resort, one may trust the gallant Captain will be sufficiently braced by the sea breezes to



deal with habitual equanimity with the junior member for Northampton, should be called upon to exercise a little gentle pressure when Mr. Bradlaugh approaches the table to take the oath on his re-election for St. Crispin's borough. Looking back over the stirring and unprecedented scenes the House has witnessed since it met as early as the 6th of January, nothing is more satisfactory than the dignity and firmness which the Speaker displayed, and the admirable ease and decision shown by Captain Gosset in the fulfilment of an uncongenial task. The issue which Mr. Bradlaugh will unfailingly raise when Parliament meets may possibly put this estimable officer to fresh trouble—that is, if the House does not adopt the less

of two evils, and, by resolving that a simple affirmation of allegiance may be made by any member who objects to an oath, so prevent the heterodox representative of Northampton from posing on a pedestal as a political martyr.

LORD BEACONSFIELD.

The accounts of Lord Beaconsfield's health were more favourable on Tuesday (when we went to press) than those published on Monday morning or on Sunday. At ten o'clock on Tuesday morning the following official bulletin was issued:—"Lord Beaconsfield has passed a tolerably fair night. His Lordship has been free from distressing symptoms, and the gain of strength acquired during the afternoon of yesterday has been maintained." At five o'clock no further change was reported in the condition of Lord Beaconsfield, who had passed a quiet afternoon.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

Last Saturday evening the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress went in state to the Guildhall, attended by the sword and mace bearers and the City Marshal, to be present at the annual distribution of prizes of the 2nd London. The prizes included those given by the Salters', Merchant Taylors', Joiners', Skinners', Mercers', Saddlers', Grocers', and Fishmongers' Companies, and by the civic ward of Farringdon Without, besides many contributed by the battalion and the officers. The chief marksman of the regiment was declared to be Private E. Houghton. The regimental drill competition prize was won for the second time by Captain Greene's company. The battalion medal and badge were won by Colour-Sergeant C. I. Cooper. At the close of the distribution, Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Vickers, the commanding officer, addressed the meeting, and stated that out of a total strength of 1001 men the efficient numbered 945, being the greatest, he believed, in any corps in the metropolis. The Lord Mayor, replying to a vote of thanks, congratulated the corps on its high standing and efficiency, and the City in possessing in that and other regiments so large a contingent of well-drilled and thoroughly able soldiers. His Lordship also enlarged on the value of Volunteer drill and exercise from many points of view.

Yesterday week the prizes of the 24th Middlesex, which is composed of Post-Office employés, were distributed at the Cannon-street Hotel, in the presence of a large company. Mr. Stevenson Blackwood, the permanent secretary, presided, and the Dowager Duchess of Manchester presented the prizes. Colonel Du Plat Taylor spoke of the work which the corps had done in attending at Dartmoor, Aldershot, and other places during the autumn manoeuvres, and then stated that twenty of the company of signallers formed in the corps would serve with the head-quarters' staff on Easter Monday. The best shot of the regiment was Staff-Sergeant H. Barker, the next was Private F. Bennett. In all, there were thirty-nine marksmen. The chief prizes in the various companies were won by Staff-Sergeant Green, Quartermaster-Sergeant Burnham, Colour-Sergeant Leane, Private Bennett, Sergeant Sweetman, Private Lewis, and Sergeant Hamilton.

Mr. Gladstone, who arrived at Hawarden Castle from London last Saturday evening for the Easter recess, read the Lessons at the services in the parish church on Sunday, and takes his usual exercise in the park. A large number of strangers were present at the parish church on Sunday.

An order for the administration of the estate of the late Baron Cleasby was made in the Chancery Division last Saturday, the interference of the Court having been rendered necessary by the fact that deceased had prepared his own will, and had not given sufficient power to his trustees.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

Three more Sketches by our Special Artist with the Natal field force under the late Sir George Colley, recently engaged in the campaign against the Boers at Laing's Neck, on the Transvaal border, are engraved for this number of our Journal.

One of the two Illustrations on our front page is an example of the curious shifts and contrivances to which it is sometimes necessary to resort in South African travelling. Here is a party of British officers crossing the Ingagani river, a few miles south of Newcastle, on their way to join the head-quarters there, who are compelled to leave their waggon and let their horses swim across, while they consign their own persons, two at a time, to the singular conveyance shown in our Artist's Sketch. This is a box suspended from a rope fixed to poles or trunks of trees on the two opposite banks of the river, and the box is hauled over by a party of Kaffirs, keeping them high and dry, at a considerable elevation above the water.

The accompanying Illustration, which is entitled "All that We Saw of the Boers at Majuba Hill," speaks for itself as an instance of the manner of fighting amidst the rocks and crags of that rugged mountain summit where the British troops, on the morning of Sunday, Feb. 27, as they lay behind an imperfect shelter afforded by the blocks of stone around its exposed margin, could hardly perceive the approach of their enemy, in much greater force, climbing up the steep hillsides to make the final assault on their lofty position. They were, indeed, quite taken by surprise at the last, after having endured, for several hours, without very great loss, the incessant firing of the Boers from covered places below, though hundreds of bullets struck the rocky rampart in front of each British soldier, and cast splinters of stone over their heads. It was not till one o'clock in the afternoon that the Boers suddenly appeared at the top of the mountain, leaping over the stones and breaking through the circle of its defenders, who were speedily overpowered, shot down or driven off the ground, by greatly superior numbers. One company of soldiers and seven officers were taken prisoners; but the remainder of those not killed or wounded got down the sides of the hill, with much difficulty, in a scattered and dispersed condition, and found their way to the Mount Prospect Camp. Sir George Colley was left dead at the top of the hill.

Our third Illustration is a view of the town of Newcastle, in Natal, which is twenty-four miles from Laing's Neck, the road northward to the place last mentioned being across the Ingogo valley, over the long range of hills called Schain's Hooge, and then by Mount Prospect, where Sir George Colley fixed his advanced camp, within four miles of the Boers' defensive position. All these places have become of considerable historical interest since the conflicts of Jan. 28, Feb. 8, and Feb. 27, which are the marked events of the late unfortunate military operations, though happily they have now ceased to have any political importance in the future pacific settlement of the Transvaal. The view of Newcastle, as will be seen by the flags displayed over the military headquarters in the town, by the tents of the encampment on the neighbouring hill, around Fort Amiel, and on the plain to the right hand, as well as by the circular redoubts or "forts," erected at several points, was sketched at the time of fullest preparation for continued hostilities. One of these little "forts," bearing the name of "Terror," and designed for the protection of the town against a possible attack after the second disastrous conflict with the Boers, was the point of view from which the Sketch was taken. The eminence rising in the background is the "hill above Fort Amiel," where the heliograph station used to communicate by signals with the camp at Mount Prospect, and the view from which, looking northward to Mount Prospect, has appeared in a former Illustration.

Our news from South Africa, received up to last Tuesday evening, does not show any material change in the state of affairs. General Sir Evelyn Wood has returned from the Transvaal to Newcastle, where he is to meet Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of the Cape Colony, and Chief Justice Sir J. H. de Villiers. Their official appointment, as the three Royal Commissioners to see to the execution of the terms of peace agreed to on the 23rd ult., and to the settlement of affairs in the Transvaal, has been published in the *London Gazette*. The British residents at Pretoria, and other partisans of the British Government there, who were ninety-six days with Sir Owen Lanyon and his garrison beleaguered in the fort, have returned freely into the town. At Heidelberg, there was a little difficulty in persuading the Dutchmen who were in the Landdrost's house to give it up, but Sir Evelyn Wood made them haul down their flag. The Boer leaders at Heidelberg have admitted to him that Commandant Cronje, who commanded the besieging force at Potchefstroom, broke the agreement that they had entered into by keeping the news of the armistice from reaching the garrison. They expressed their sincere regret at the occurrence, and agreed that the capitulation should be considered as cancelled, and that Potchefstroom should be reoccupied. General Sir Evelyn Wood accepted the apology, and the arrangement is to be carried out; the material of war surrendered by the garrison is at once to be handed over at Standerton.

At Bloemfontein, in the Orange Free State, an enthusiastic reception was accorded to President Brand on his return from Natal, his arrival being made the occasion for great public rejoicings. A triumphal arch was erected on the route leading to his residence. Replying to addresses presented to him by the Dutch and English inhabitants, Mr. Brand expressed his firm conviction that the peace concluded between the British Government and the Transvaal Boers would be the means of uniting all the nations of South Africa in the bonds of peace and friendship.

The Legislative Council of the Cape Colony, as well as the Legislative Assembly, has voted an address of thanks to the Queen for making peace with the Transvaal. The Colonial Treasurer introduced his Budget in the House of Assembly. The revenue for the current year is estimated at £2,968,210, and the expenditure at £2,852,013. The revenue for the past year amounted to £2,800,000, and the expenditure to £2,633,783, exclusive of the war expenditure provided for by loan.

The revised version of the New Testament is not only the joint property of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, but the editions of the version issued by the two University presses are identical in every respect except in regard to the word "Oxford" or "Cambridge" on the titlepages. The type, form, binding, and price are the same.

Mr. Charles Dew Miller, of Newgate-street, was returned on Tuesday, without opposition, to succeed Sir Charles Reed as a member of the Common Council in the civic ward of Farringdon Within; and, at the same time, Mr. Thomas Rudkin was nominated Deputy of the Ward in the place of Sir Charles, to whose widow and family a hearty vote of condolence in their bereavement was accorded. Another vacancy in the Court has happened in Bread-street Ward by the sudden death of Mr. Hugh McCabe.



THE COURT.

Special precautionary arrangements were made upon the occasion of the Queen's journey from Windsor to Osborne. A pilot engine preceded the special train by ten minutes. Plate-layers were stationed along the entire line at distances of about half a mile apart, with flags and fog-signals; and her Majesty, contrary to custom, crossed from Portsmouth to Osborne on board the Admiralty yacht Enchantress, Captain Thomson, instead of her own yacht Alberta; the officers of both yachts being in attendance on the Enchantress. Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold travelled with the Queen. Staff-Commander E. H. Hills, of the Enchantress, was presented to her Majesty by Captain Thomson.

The twenty-eighth anniversary of Prince Leopold's birthday (the 7th inst.) was celebrated with due honours both at Windsor and at the Isle of Wight. Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar came over from Portsmouth and lunched with the Queen at Osborne, and her Majesty's dinner party included Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Leopold, Lady Waterpark, the Hon. Horatio Stopford, the Hon. Evelyn Moore, Lord Charles Fitzroy, Sir Henry Ponsonby, Captain Waller, and the Master of the Household. The band of the Royal Marines played during and after dinner, under the direction of Mr. C. Kreyer, and the ladies and gentlemen of the household joined the Royal circle in the drawing-room.

Prince Woronzow arrived at Osborne yesterday week on a special mission to her Majesty, to announce the death of the late Emperor Alexander II., and the accession of the Emperor Alexander III. The Prince was introduced by Earl Sydney; and the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Leopold were present with the Queen during the interview. The Royal dinner party included Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Leopold, Prince Woronzow, Lady Waterpark, the Hon. Horatio Stopford, the Hon. Evelyn Moore, Earl Sydney, Comte de Ribeauville, the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby, and the Master of the Household.

On Sunday her Majesty, Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Edinburgh, and Prince Leopold attended Divine service, performed at Osborne by the Rev. Canon Prothero.

The children of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh crossed from Portsmouth to Osborne in the Alberta on Monday, accompanied by the Duke, who came from Cowes to receive them.

Her Majesty, with the members of the Royal family, has walked and driven out daily.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice have been to Newport to call on Mr. Toward, who is still very ill.

Daily telegrams have continued to be forwarded to her Majesty concerning the state of Lord Beaconsfield, and, by the Queen's command, Sir W. Jenner has visited the Earl.

Mr. E. Moira has received her Majesty's commands to paint miniatures of the children of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales has hunted with Lord Carrington's bloodhounds at Winkfield, near Windsor; and his Royal Highness was present at a special performance of "The Martyr of Antioch," conducted by the composer, Mr. Arthur Sullivan, at the Royal Albert Hall.

The Princess of Wales, attended by Miss Knollys and Lieutenant-General Sir Dighton Probyn, paid a short visit to her relatives at Berlin on her return from St. Petersburg. Her Royal Highness on leaving Berlin on Sunday was accompanied to the railway station by the German Crown Prince and Crown Princess and the Crown Prince of Denmark. Lord and Lady Ampthill were also present. The Emperor and Empress paid a farewell visit to the Princess at the palace of the Crown Prince in the morning. The Princess travelled via Hanover and Cologne to Brussels, and thence, by way of Lille, to Calais, where she embarked on board the special steamer Maid of Kent, Captain Dane, and crossed to the Admiralty Pier at Dover, after an excellent passage. Her Royal Highness travelled from Dover by special South-Eastern train to Charing-cross, where she was met by the Duchess of Teck. Shortly after her arrival at Marlborough House the Prince and Princess drove out and visited the Duchess of Cambridge and the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz at St. James's Palace, and also called personally in Curzon-street to inquire after the Earl of Beaconsfield.

The Prince has presented to the Berlin Zoological Gardens two of the elephants brought by him from India.

His Royal Highness having to be present at the wedding of the Crown Prince of Austria in Vienna on May 10, has desired that the festival dinner of the Royal Hospital for Children and Women shall be postponed from May 9 to May 24, in order that he may preside.

Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud of Wales were at the private view of Miss Catherine Frere's Exhibition of South African Sketches in New Bond-street.

Princess Louise of Lorne arrived in town yesterday week from Paris.

The Duchess of Connaught has consented to open a naval and military bazaar on behalf of the Aldershot Soldiers' Homes and the Chatham Soldiers' and Seamen's Home on May 3, in the large hall of the Cannon-street Hotel.

Prince Christian has joined the committee which has been formed to raise a memorial to perpetuate the services rendered to the study of natural history and fish culture by the late Mr. Frank Buckland.

The Duke of Cambridge and the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and the Duchess of Teck, accompanied by Princess Mary and Prince Adolphus, Francis, and George of Teck, have inspected Miss Catherine Frere's Exhibition of South African Sketches, at 184, New Bond-street.

A marriage is arranged between Count Andrew Bernstorff, eldest son of the late German Ambassador to the Court of St. James, and Mlle. Augusta de Hottinger, of Bel Air, Switzerland. The marriage of the Earl of Desart and Miss Bischoffsheim is fixed for the 26th inst.; that of the Hon. and Rev. Alberic Bertie and Lady Caroline M'Donnell will take place on the same day at St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square; and the marriage of Baron Werner von Globig, Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor of Austria and in waiting on the Archduke Rainer of Austria, with Miss Beatrice Gore, daughter of the Rev. W. F. Gore, of Feniton Court, will take place towards the end of May.

Sir William Jenner, M.D., K.C.B., was on Tuesday elected President of the Royal College of Physicians of London.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress will entertain the Lord Chancellor and the rest of her Majesty's Judges at dinner at the Mansion House on Thursday, June 16 next; and the Archbishops and Bishops on the following Wednesday, June 22. The Judges will attend St. Paul's in state on the afternoon of Hospital Sunday, June 19. The Lord Mayor will entertain Dr. Moffat, the father-in-law of Livingstone, and other distinguished missionaries at dinner, in the Egyptian Hall, on May 7.

THE CONSPIRACIES IN RUSSIA.

The trial of the six persons, two of them young women, concerned in the recent fatal conspiracy to murder the late Emperor Alexander II., took place last week, occupying Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and the verdict was given early on Sunday morning. They were all found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged.

A complete account of the evidence and the prisoners' own statements, which appear to be quite unreserved, and are doubtless entirely truthful, so far as concerns their own individual parts in this atrocious crime, was given in our last publication. Their names are Nicholas Sheliaboff, aged thirty; Sophie Peroffskaya (or Peroffsky), aged twenty-seven; Nicholas Reesakoff, aged nineteen or twenty; Kibaltchik, a mining engineer; Gabriel Michaeloff; and Hesse Helfmann, a young Jewess. It will be recollect that Reesakoff was the young man who threw the first bomb-shell on Sunday, the 13th ult., which shattered the carriage in which the Emperor and his brother, the Grand Duke Michael, were riding. The Emperor then got out of the carriage, and was killed by a second bomb-shell, which was cast at his feet by another young man, Elnikoff, who himself died soon afterwards. The bomb-shells, as well as the explosive apparatus found in the mine at the cheesemonger's shop in Little Garden-street, where the Emperor had been expected to pass, were manufactured by the engineer Kibaltchik. The woman Sophie Peroffskaya, who was of aristocratic birth, her father having been high in office under the Emperor's Government, assisted Sheliaboff, one of the principal managers of the conspiracy, in contriving how, when, and where the Emperor should be waylaid. She also gave instructions to the young men, Reesakoff and Elnikoff, and delivered the instruments of murder into their hands; and she watched the actual perpetration of the crime from the opposite side of the canal. A third bomb-shell was to have been used by Michaeloff, if the Emperor went a different road. Along with the prisoner Sheliaboff, the general direction and contrivance of the plot had been carried on by Nicholas Sablin, who shot himself when the police entered his lodgings to arrest him. The young Jewess, Hesse Helfmann, was taken in the same house at that time with a quantity of materials for bomb-shells, two bombs already made, and some papers referring to the conspiracy in which they were engaged.

The President of the Court of Judges was Prince Peter of Oldenburg, the chief judicial member of the Imperial Privy Council, who was accompanied by the Prince of Saxe-Altenburg, General Miliutin, Minister of War, General Timaschoff, Counts Nesselrode and Barantsoff, M. Nabokoff, the Minister of Justice, and the Marquis Wielopolski.

The Procureur, M. Mouravieff, in a speech remarkable for its clearness and eloquence, summed up the accusations against the prisoners. He enlarged upon the enormity of their offences, particularised their several shares in the crime of March 13, and demanded in each case the punishment of death. Nothing less, he said, would satisfy the Russian nation. He portrayed in touching terms the courage and kindly solicitude of the Emperor, and dwelt upon the sorrow and indignation of the people. He sketched rapidly the history of Nihilism in Russia. From a peaceable propaganda its disciples had passed to bloody crime, having recourse first to the dagger and revolver, and then to dynamite. The learned counsel enumerated the many terrible deeds of the party, culminating in the assassination of the Emperor. Having analysed the testimony of the witnesses, he said it would be found that the immediate authors of the crime were ten in number, of whom Elnikoff and Sablin are dead, and the two Kobozeffs are still at large, whilst the remaining six were at the bar of the court. The latter might be divided into three groups, composed respectively of Reesakoff, who confessed his own share and incriminated his accomplices; Kibaltchik, Sheliaboff, and Peroffskaya, whose avowals related only to themselves; and Helfmann, and Michaeloff, who made no confessions at all. Of these, full reliance might be placed on Reesakoff's statements, and partial reliance on those of the next three. Michaeloff had been stationed with one of the bombs in the Sadovaya-street. Helfmann evidently knew all that was going on; and without Kibaltchik the means by which to accomplish the crime would have been wanting. The Procureur spoke particularly of Sophie Peroffskaya, a woman, young, well-educated, and of gentle birth, who could yet superintend the preparation of so horrible a crime and calmly survey its execution, he could only describe as a monster. At this word some emotion was evident amongst the spectators, who turned to see what effect the words of her accuser would have on the female prisoner. She sat impassive, and apparently quite unaffected, till the Procureur brought a seven hours' speech to a close with the demand that the last sentence of the law should be applied to all the prisoners. The advocates for the defence spoke in turn, and addressed themselves merely to the endeavour to extenuate the guilt of the accused.

Sheliaboff spoke for himself, and, continually launching out into an exposition of the motives and aims of the Russian Socialists, was several times called to order by the President. On declaring himself to be a true Russian, the audience could not restrain an expression of dissent, and silence was not restored until the President rang his bell. The prisoner proceeded to the defence of Michaeloff, and, after speaking an hour and five minutes, sat down with a smile.

The accused were then, in turn, called upon to say their last words. Reesakoff was inaudible. Michaeloff and Helfmann had nothing new to offer; nor had Kibaltchik.

Sophie Peroffskaya spoke at some length. She defended her opinions and action quietly but firmly, and, towards the end, with evident emotion, demanded the punishment of death in common with her accomplices, without regard to her sex. Sheliaboff had nothing to say, but that his party and his judges were totally at variance in their ideas.

The Court retired at eleven o'clock on Saturday night, and the President proposed twenty-four questions for consideration regarding the culpability of the accused. The Court found a verdict of guilty on all the counts except those charging Reesakoff, Michaeloff, and Helfmann with co-operation in the affair of the mine.

At half-past three o'clock the Court retired again, and reassembling three hours later, on Sunday morning, they sentenced all the prisoners to be hanged. The sentence was formally announced to them on Monday afternoon, when twenty-four hours would be allowed them to appeal for mercy. The sentence on Sophie Peroffskaya must be referred to the Emperor for confirmation, she being of noble birth.

The Emperor's carriage, with the damage that was done to it by the explosion of the first bomb-shell, is shown in one of our Artist's sketches. It had a foot-board behind for a Cossack to stand upon, which is quite knocked to pieces, only a single piece of wood being left. The man who stood there was killed at once. The lacquered covering of the back of the carriage, and of the upper hinder part of both sides, which was black, is quite torn away, exposing to view the shattered framework of the back and sides, and of the seat beneath. The axles and wheels are uninjured, so that the carriage might easily have been driven home to the palace, with the Emperor in

it, if he had not chosen to go; and it will be remembered that the coachman told his Majesty so, offering to take him safe home. The first bomb-shell not exploding directly under the carriage, but at the back of it, because it was going on rapidly, the floor and seat of the carriage were scarcely injured; only the wood-work of the floor was a little split, and partly lifted from its place. Neither the Emperor nor the Grand Duke Michael could be hurt while inside the carriage. This was precisely the case with the Emperor Napoleon III. and the Empress, when Orsini's bomb was thrown at their carriage, in front of the Opera House in Paris, in February, 1858. It seems likely that the only chance of success, in an attempt by such means to kill persons actually in the carriage, would be to throw in the deadly instrument through the window; and it is possible that it might then fall upon their knees, or might strike the cushions, or other soft parts, and so fail to explode. The carriage was a *coupe*, and had but two seats, at the back; in front was the window, with a hat-peg for the Emperor to put his helmet upon, and with a gilt cup or pan for the ashes of his cigar. The lining of the carriage, and the covering of the two seat-cushions, were of dark blue twilled satin; the floor-cloth, over which was laid a bearskin or that of some shaggy beast, instead of a rug, shows no marks of the disaster. A few spots of blood are visible on the right-hand seat-cushion; it is believed that this blood did not come from the Emperor; but that some one of those with him, after the second explosion, having got blood on his hand by helping to lift up those who were wounded, may have looked into the carriage to see if the Emperor had left anything there, and may inadvertently have touched the cushion. The glass of the window, behind the coachman, is completely smashed. The interior is also full of small fragments of glass, which seem to have come from the exploding bomb-shell, and which have cut and torn the lining of the carriage, and stuck in the outer part behind, and have even made some scratches on the wheels.

Another Sketch by our Special Artist, made last week, represents the operations that have been going on to search for hidden torpedoes and mines in front of the Winter Palace. The police tell everybody who inquires that the workmen are only employed to dig a well, or to do something in the way of waterworks, but everybody knows better. A strong force of police, gendarmes, Cossacks, and other soldiers constantly patrol the ground, and forbid the people to assemble there.

The Russian Revolutionary party have issued another manifesto, with an address to the Emperor Alexander III. This address demands a national representation on the basis of universal suffrage, and asks for freedom of speech, of the press, of conscience, and of election. It declares that, if this programme be adopted, the Executive Committee will dissolve itself, and no resort will be had to violent measures against any form of Government thus sanctioned.

BENEVOLENT OBJECTS.

Mr. Russell Sturgis presided on the 7th inst. at the anniversary festival of the Orphan Working Asylum. Over 250 guests sat down. In proposing "Success to the Orphan Working Asylum," the chairman said that to provide for the 580 orphans who were being supported by the charity a sum of £15,000 was annually required. Of this amount they looked to the benevolent public for £8000. The work of the schools, both senior and junior, had been highly satisfactory. The subscriptions amounted to £3300.

Yesterday week the fourteenth anniversary dinner of the London General Porters' Benevolent Association was held at the Albion Tavern, under the presidency of Mr. Morley, M.P. Subscriptions were announced amounting to £1789, including 100 guineas by the chairman, a similar amount by Messrs. J. and R. Morley, and 50 guineas from Messrs. Leaf, Son, and Co.

The fourteenth annual season of the popular weekly entertainments at Brompton Hospital, which for so many years have admirably fulfilled their purpose of amusing and cheering the inmates, was brought to a close last week; the customary musical entertainments, occasionally interspersed with recitations, dissolving views, &c., having on this occasion been varied by a dramatic performance, under the able direction of Miss Hildyard.—The Rev. John Bennett, the Incumbent, preached in Park Chapel, Chelsea, last Sunday morning and evening, in behalf of the funds of the Consumption Hospital, Brompton; the collections amounting to £55.

The quarterly court of subscribers and governors of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held last Saturday at Freemasons' Hall. Colonel Creton, grand treasurer, presided. Fifteen girls, daughters of Freemasons, were elected into the school; five of the successful candidates being from the metropolis. The annual festival of the institution, at which Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Master for Gloucestershire, will preside, will be held on May 8.

On Tuesday afternoon the Bishop of London presided at the thirty-third annual meeting of the St. John's House and Sisterhood for the Training and Employment of Nurses for Hospitals, the Poor, and Private Families. A report, detailing the operations of the institution for the past year, was read by the hon. secretary, Mr. S. W. Bell, from which it appeared that during that period a staff of forty-eight nurses had been supplied by the institution to King's College Hospital, and one of thirty-five to Charing-cross Hospital. Much had also been done among the poor at their own homes, and in the Maternity Hospital at Chelsea 111 poor women had been treated during the year.

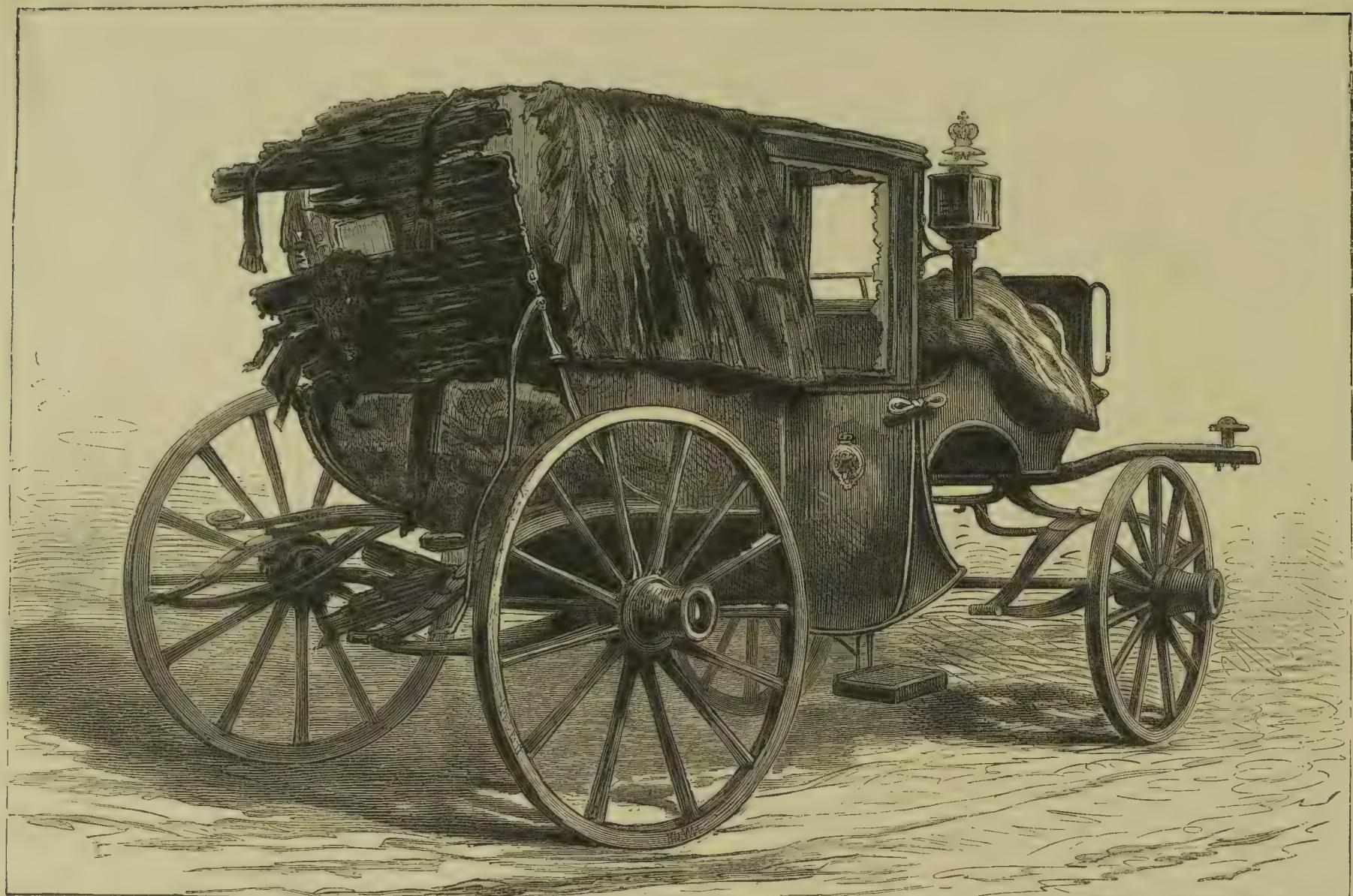
The Grocers' Company have voted £25 to the funds of the Church of England Young Men's Society.

The council of the Charity Organisation Society have agreed to hold a meeting at the Westminster Palace Hotel on the 27th of April, to discuss the question of the City parochial charities. Lord Henniker is to take the chair.

A meeting was convened by the National Temperance League, at Exeter Hall, on the 7th inst., for the purpose of receiving the testimony of various provincial Mayors in favour of total abstinence. The Lord Mayor of York presided, being supported by the Mayors of Leeds, Huddersfield, Gateshead, Reading, Wakefield, Scarborough, Poole, Oswestry, and Bootle. Letters were read from sixteen other similar official representatives of provincial towns. The Mayor of Leeds mentioned that twenty-seven Mayors were abstainers.

At the meeting of the London School Board on the 7th inst., the proposal of Mr. G. Potter that a salary of £1500 should be attached to the office of chairman, was negatived by 30 to 3 votes. Mr. Edward North Buxton, vice-chairman, was unanimously elected chairman of the board, in the room of the late Sir Charles Reed; and Mr. Freeman, chairman of the Finance Committee, was appointed vice-chairman. A letter was read from Lady Reed acknowledging the sympathy expressed by the board in their resolution of last week. It was resolved to fill, on May 12, the vacancy occasioned in Hackney by the death of Sir Charles Reed.

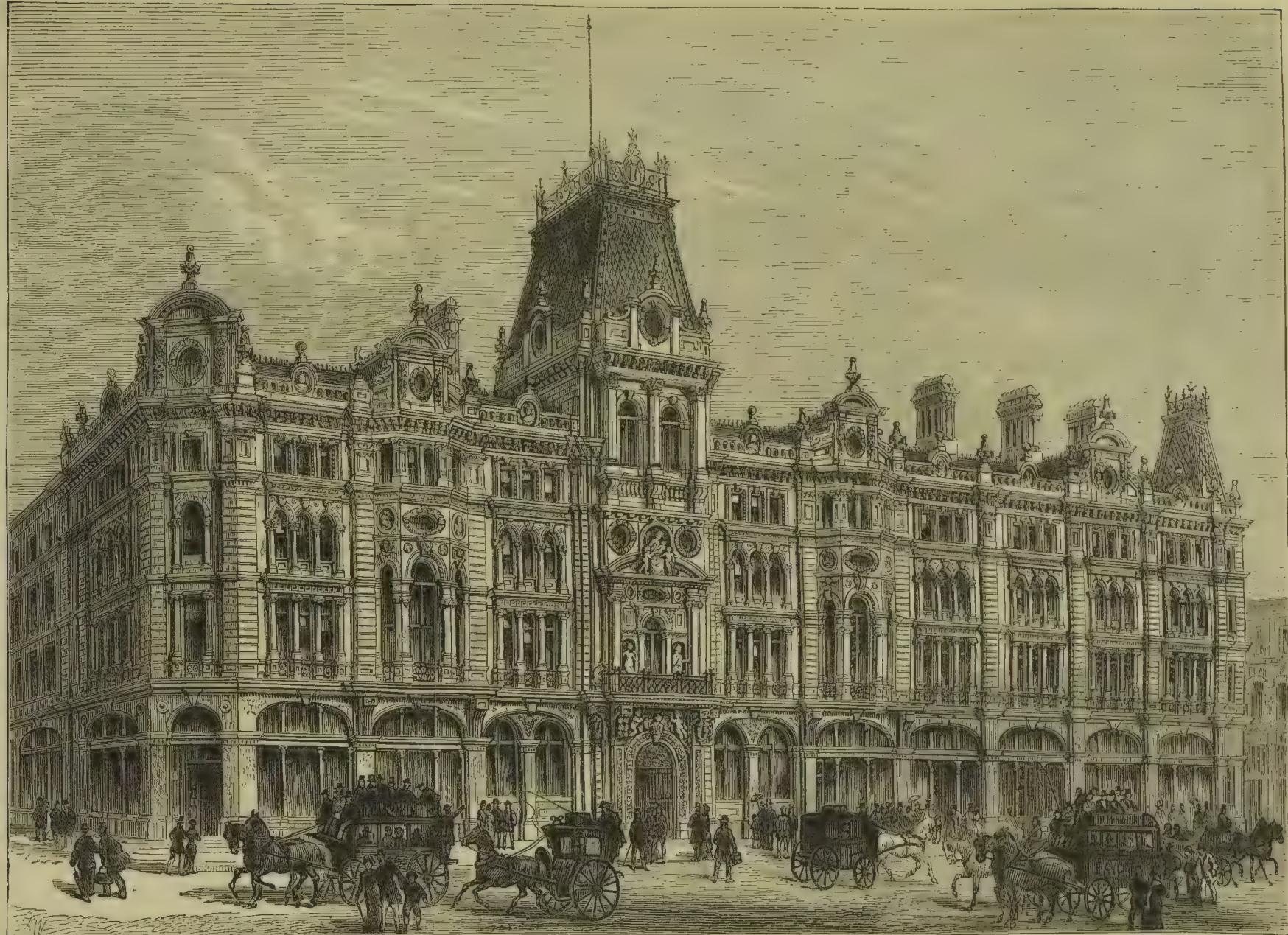
THE CONSPIRACIES IN ST. PETERSBURG: SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.
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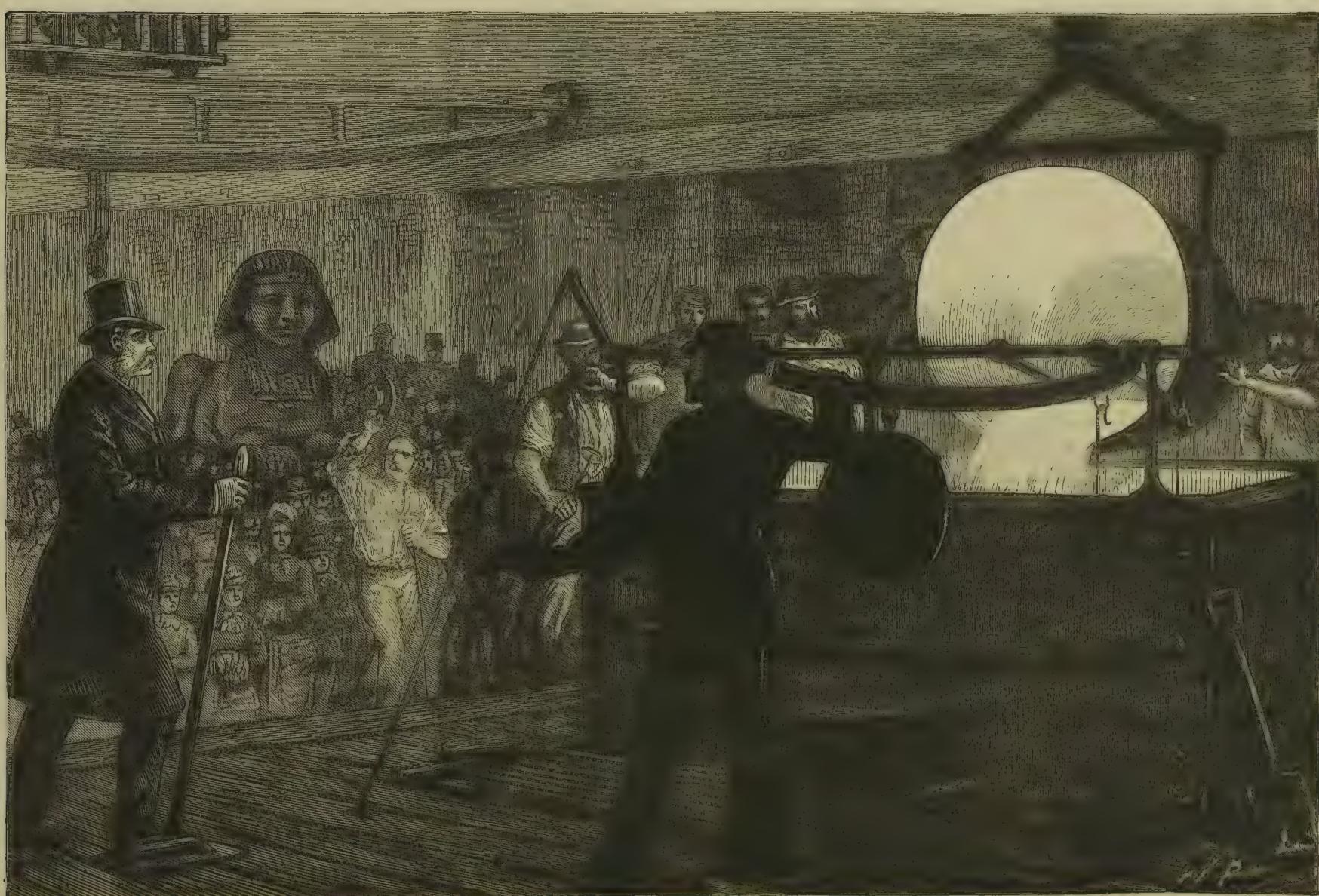
THE LATE EMPEROR'S CARRIAGE, SHATTERED BY THE EXPLOSION OF THE FIRST BOMB-SHELL.



SEARCHING FOR MINES IN FRONT OF THE WINTER PALACE.



THE MERCERS' COMPANY'S NEW BUILDINGS, CHEAPSIDE.—SEE NEXT PAGE



MELTING THE METAL FOR THE BRONZE SPHINX TO BE PLACED ON THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

NEW BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS.

MR. HUBERT HERKOMER, A.R.A., has executed a Large Design for a PICTORIAL ADVERTISEMENT (size 11 ft. 6 in. by 9 ft.), in reference to which an Article will appear in the MAGAZINE OF ART for MAY, under the title of THE STREETS AS ART-GALLERIES.

THE STREETS AS ART-GALLERIES. Mr. Hubert Herkomer's Large Design for a PICTORIAL ADVERTISEMENT has been reproduced on a small scale to suit the pages of THE MAGAZINE OF ART, and will appear in this Magazine for MAY, with the Article above referred to.

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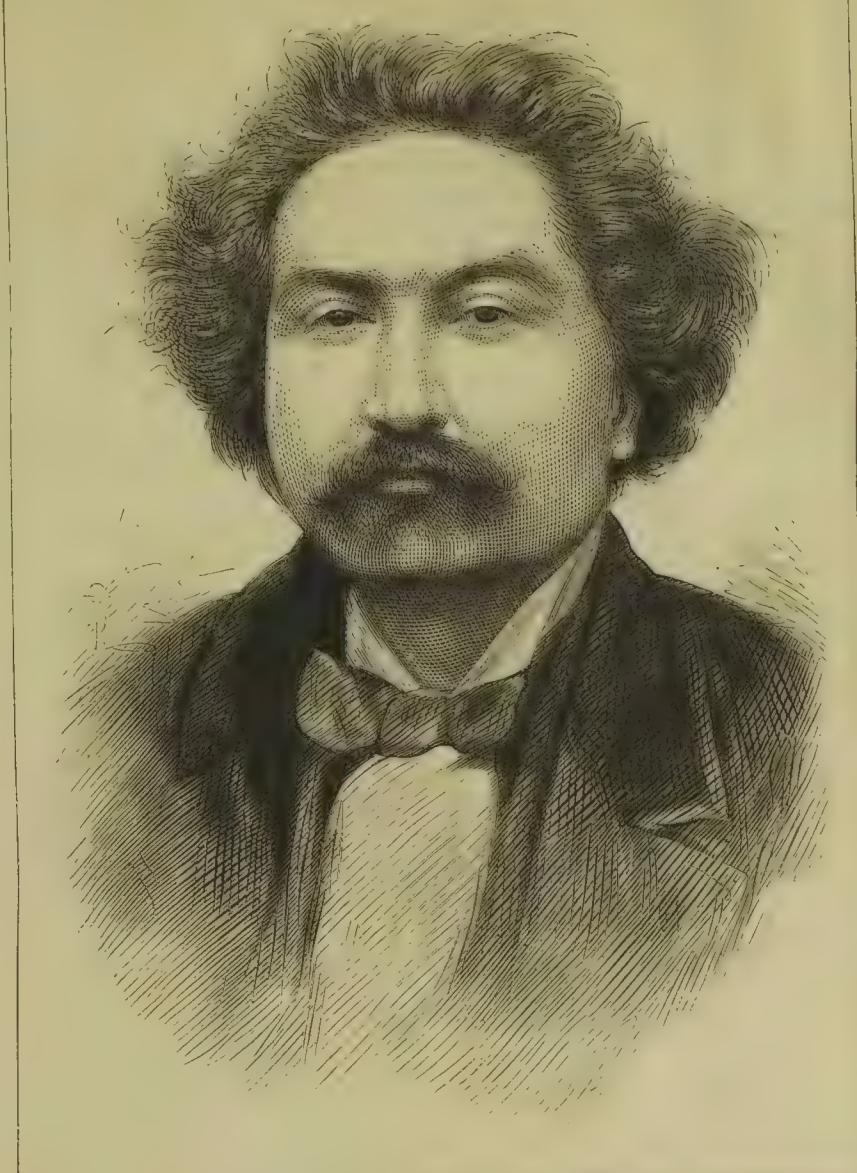
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PIANOF



M. ERCKMANN.



M. CHATRIAN.



FARNBOROUGH HILL HOUSE, HANTS, THE NEW RESIDENCE OF THE EMPRESS EUGÉNIE.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

ERCKMANN-CHATRIAN.

This double name, which is associated with the joint authorship of many popular stories of French rustic, domestic, and military life, refers to the subjects of the two Portraits engraved by us for this week's publication. Emile Erckmann and Alexandre Chatrian have been united in a productive literary partnership since 1847, and have gained favour with hundreds of thousands of readers throughout Europe. The former was born, in 1822, at Phalsbourg, the latter in 1826, at Aberschwiller, both places in what was then the French department of the Meurthe, but in the province of Alsace, which has passed from France to Germany by the result of the war of 1870 and 1871. Erckmann was the son of a bookseller in his little native town, but came to Paris as a law-student. In 1847 he made the literary alliance with Chatrian, who was an usher in the town school or college of Phalsbourg. They first wrote tales and sketches for the provincial journals, but this work paid them so badly that Erckmann soon returned to his law studies, while Chatrian got a clerk's post in the Eastern Railway offices. It was not till 1859 that they gained a success in their story of "The Illustrious Dr. Mathéus," which was quickly followed by "Contes Fantastiques," "Contes de la Montagne," and "Contes des Bords du Rhin." "Maitre Daniel Rock," published in 1861, was another story that attracted much notice. These writers had opened a fresh vein of picturesque, humorous, and romantic interest by their graphic and lifelike descriptions of rustic and domestic manners among the mixed French and German population of Alsace. They next began to depict the scenes and incidents of French military life in the Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars, more especially displaying the rough and hard experiences of the common soldier, and the sufferings of bereaved humble families, in such a manner as to expose the cruel effects of war upon the working-class people. This is the main theme of the most important works of Erckmann-Chatrian, several of which have been translated into English, German, and other foreign languages. The "History of a Conscript of 1813," "The Invasion, and Waterloo," "The Blockade of Phalsbourg," "The Story of a Peasant," and "A Man of the People," are very widely known, as well as "The Story of the Plébiscite, by One of the 7,500,000 who voted 'Yes,'" which refers to the re-establishment of the Empire, in 1852, by Napoleon III. A dramatic piece, in three acts, "L'Ami Fritz," written by these two authors jointly in 1864, was brought out at the Théâtre Français in 1876, with very good success; and they have contributed other plays to the stage. We understand that Messrs. Erckmann and Chatrian have recently been engaged, with Mr. Sydney Samuel, of London, in preparing an English version of their prohibited play, "Alsace," to be performed on the London stage.

THE EMPRESS EUGÉNIE'S RESIDENCE.

The widowed consort of the Emperor Napoleon III., whose bereavement of an only son, as well as of a husband, brought her the respectful sympathy of the English people, has preferred still to reside in England. Her Majesty will always be sure of the kind friendship of our Queen and Royal family, and was lately on a visit at Windsor Castle. Having quitted Camden Place, Chisellhurst, where the Emperor died eight years ago, she has chosen for her future abode the mansion formerly occupied by the late Mr. Thomas Longman, head of the eminent London publishers' firm, situate at Farnborough, in Hampshire. It is about thirty-three miles from London, near the Military College of Sandhurst and Wellington College, and close to the north side of Aldershot Camp. The Queen has a lodge or pavilion at Aldershot, and not unfrequently, when she is at Windsor in summer time, drives over there for two or three hours to enjoy the brilliant sight of a field-day parade of her gallant troops belonging to the Aldershot Army Corps. We may, therefore, anticipate that the Empress and our beloved Sovereign will often meet each other in that neighbourhood; and we trust that the invigorating air of the Hampshire Downs will preserve the health of the illustrious lady, who is now in the fifty-fifth year of her age, through the remainder of a long life, free from the cares and sorrows of her past career.

THE ISLE OF MAN.

Our Illustration of the dwellings and home life of Manx fishermen has a little occasional interest, since the first Session of the newly-elected "House of Keys," the island legislative assembly, was opened on Tuesday week. The late Parliamentary election there is the third under the Reform Act of 1866, but the first that has taken place under a greatly-reduced franchise. In the latter part of 1880 the local Legislature passed an Act whereby the qualification of a voter was fixed at "£4 annual value, owners and tenants all round." A still more liberal measure of reform was adopted—the granting of the franchise to female property-owners. By this last Reform Act the number of voters has been largely increased. According to the Census of 1871, the population of the Isle of Man was 53,763, and it is supposed that the ensuing Census will show an increase to nearly 60,000. The number of voters under the Act of 1866 was 4500; under the new Act 2238 have been added, making a total of 6788.

Under the administration of the present Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Henry Brougham Loch, K.C.B., the island has made great social and political progress. Soon after his appointment, in 1863, his Excellency introduced a number of reforms, and one was the abolition of the self-elective principle in the constitution of the House of Keys. The Lieutenant-Governor, the Governor's Council, and the House of Keys constitute the three political estates of the island. The working of popular representation in the government of the island has infused new life and energy into the conduct of affairs. The creation of harbour works at the various ports, the construction of railways, the extension of local government in the towns, reforms in the system of jurisprudence, the introduction of compulsory elementary education, and the establishment of a daily mail between Liverpool and Douglas may be enumerated among the improvements which have been effected. One of the political questions upon which candidates have now "gone to the country" is a further reduction of the franchise to household suffrage, a great number of fishermen and miners—an intelligent class of men, who represent the staple industries of the island—being excluded by the present qualification.

Our Artist's Sketch was taken at Port St. Mary, sometimes called Port-le-Muray, in the south-west corner of the island, near Port Erin, which is the nearest to the shores of Ireland. There is a railway to these places from Douglas, the chief town, which is on the east coast, opposite Cumberland. The old capital, however, and still the seat of government, is Castletown, not far from Port St. Mary, on the south coast, with its ancient fortress of Castle Rushen, now used as a prison. Port St. Mary, as well as Peel, on the western shore of the island, has a large share of the herring fishery; its inhabitants own about eighty fishing-smacks, manned by six hundred men and boys. The number belonging to Peel is

more than twice as great; but the Cornish and Irish fishing-boats, which are, together, far more numerous than all those of the Manxmen, are wont to assemble at Port St. Mary. Both those places, in the fishing season, present a lively sight; and it is pretty to watch the fleet of boats, with their brown sails glowing in the morning or evening sunshine, as they put forth to sea for the nightly labour among a vast shoal of herrings, or as they return with daylight bringing an abundant load of the finny prey. The Manx fishermen and peasants are good, honest, sober, and quiet folk, much like those of the Hebrides and the western and northern coasts of Scotland. Their small country is picturesque, and full of interesting antiquities, the most remarkable of which is the ruins of Peel Castle and the Cathedral of St. Germans, on a little rocky inlet in the bay at Peel.

SHOOTING WATERFOWL IN AFRICA.

The European traveller or settler in most parts of Africa, if he be addicted to the use of the rifle and the fowling-piece, will find a great variety of sport with large and small game, four-footed or winged, and no legal or artificial hindrance to its pursuit. We hear most of the more ambitious chase of such huge beasts as the elephant, rhinoceros, and hippopotamus, the not less formidable buffalo, or the diverse species of antelopes which abound in the vast uncultivated eastern regions of that Continent, so prolific of animal life. The lion, and the panther or leopard, sometimes erroneously called the tiger, have become comparatively scarce within the last thirty years on the accustomed beats of civilised visitors in quest of exciting adventures, or of the huntsman's marketable spoils. But the traveller who "hunts for the pot," having to find his dinner as he journeys on into the pathless wilderness of the remote interior, where little better food than "mealies" or some other native grain is to be procured from the villages on his way, does not omit to look out for some feathered game worth killing for the sake of eating. Bustards, partridges, sand-grouse, plovers, snipes, moorhens, wild ducks, besides cranes, flamingoes, and other kinds which inhabit the lands beneath a tropical or semi-tropical climate, are plentifully met with in the neighbourhood of water. The appetite of hunger, as well as that of thirst, may soon be satisfied by the expert "Africander" when he arrives on the banks of a river, a lake, or even a swamp affording both sustenance and cover to flocks of these winged creatures. If he has brought with him a portable boat of india-rubber cloth, such as that of Berthon's folding-up contrivance, which weighs only 50 lb., or if he can borrow a canoe from his native friends, the whole red-overgrown expanse of a big piece of water, filled with an inconceivable quantity of bird-life, is placed at his entire disposal. This seems to have been the fortunate position of our worthy countryman, represented in the Illustration of "Shooting Waterfowl on Lake Mirambala," who has got a canoe, with a negro to paddle him about, and is so conveniently enabled to lie in ambush behind the tall fringe of reeds and rushes, amidst the beautiful Victoria Regia flowers and other aquatic plants, till the waterfowl rise within sure shooting range of his double-barrelled gun. He will have gathered enough of this booty in a couple of hours to feed himself and all his servants for a week. As the heat of the day comes on he will lie down in the canoe, beneath a shady roof of thick plaited grass, and enjoy his noonday sleep.

THE CUNARD STEAM-SHIP SERVIA.

Our Illustration shows the appearance of this noble ship, recently added to the fleet of the Cunard Royal Mail Steam-ship Company, and the largest by far of all ships afloat except the Great Eastern. She was designed and built by Messrs. James and George Thomson, at Clyde Bank, near Glasgow. The dimensions of the Servia are—length 530 ft., breadth 52 ft., depth 44 ft. 9 in., gross tonnage 8500 tons. A better idea of the huge size of the vessel will be gained from the following facts. Her cargo capacity will be equal to 6500 tons, with 1800 tons of coal and 1000 tons of water ballast, the vessel having a double bottom on the longitudinal bracket system. The anchor davits are 8 in., and the cable chain pipe 22 in. in diameter. The propeller shaft weighs 26½ tons, and the propeller, boss, and blades, which are made of Vicars steel, are 38 tons in weight. The machinery consists of three cylinder compound surface condensing engines, one cylinder 72 in. and two 100 in. in diameter, with a stroke piston 6 ft. 6 in. It is anticipated that the indicated horse-power will amount to 10,500. There are in all seven boilers, six of which are double and one single ended, and all are made of steel, with corrugated furnaces, the total number of furnaces being thirty-nine. Practically, the Servia is a five-decker, as she is built with four decks and a promenade. The promenade, which is reserved for the passengers, is very large and spacious. On the fore part of it are the steam steering gear and house, captain's room and flying bridge. On the upper deck forward is the forecastle, with accommodation for the crew, and lavatories and bath rooms for steerage passengers; while aft are the light-towers for signalling the Admiralty lights, with the look-out bridge on the top. Near to the midship house are the captain's and officers' sleeping cabins. Next to the engine skylight is the smoking-room, which can be entered from the deck or from the cabins below. It is unusually large for a smoking-room, being 30 ft. long by 22 ft. wide. Near the after-deck house is the ladies' drawing-room, to which access can be obtained either from the music-room or from the deck. Aft of this, and in the upper end of the upper deck, is the music-room, which is 50 ft. by 22 ft. in dimensions, and which is to be fitted up in a handsome manner with polished wood-panellings. Immediately abaft of the music-room is the grand staircase, which leads to the main saloon and the cabins below on the main and lower decks. For the convenience of the passengers there are no fewer than four different entrances from the upper deck of the ship to the cabins. At the foot of the stair leading to the saloon, and also in the cabins, the panellings are of polished Hungarian ash and maple wood. The saloon is very large, being 74 ft. long by 49 ft. wide, with sitting accommodation for 350 persons, while the clear height under the beams is 8 ft. 6 in. The sides are all in fancy woods, with beautifully polished inlaid panels. All the upholstery of the saloon is of morocco leather. Right forward of the after deck are the pantries, baths, lavatories, and state-rooms. The total number of state-rooms is 168, and the vessel has accommodation for 450 first-class and 600 steerage passengers, besides a crew of 200 officers and men. For two-thirds of its entire length the lower deck is fitted up with first-class state-rooms. The ship is divided into nine watertight bulkheads, and she is built according to the Admiralty requirements for war purposes. A special feature is the arrangement of the water-tight doors in the engine and boiler spaces. According to the usual method, the door requires to be screwed down, and this process takes up a considerable time. In the Servia they can be shut from the upper deck in case of accident in a couple of seconds by simply using a connecting-rod. There are in all twelve boats, and these are equipped as life-boats, and have Hill and Clark's patent improved boat-lowering apparatus. The keel of the ship consists

of five thicknesses, making a total thickness of 6½ in.; and in order to secure thoroughly reliable workmanship, the riveting was done by Tweddell's hydraulic riveter. All the frames and beams of the ship were riveted by this process. The upper deck is of steel, covered with yellow pine, the main deck is of steel with a teak covering, and the lower deck is of steel with a covering of teak above the engine and boiler spaces. All the deck-houses and deck fittings, which are liable to be carried away in a heavy sea, are made of iron and steel, and are riveted to the steel decks underneath. The Servia possesses a peculiarity which will add to her safety—namely, a double bottom or iron skin. Thus, were she to ground on rocks, she would remain perfectly safe while the inner skin continued intact. There are three masts on the vessel, and the Cunard Company have adhered to their special rig, believing it to be more ship-shape than the practice of fitting up masts according to the length of the ship. On these masts there will be a good spread of canvas to assist in propelling the vessel.

OPIUM IN CHINA.

Our Special Artist now in China, Mr. Joseph Bell, furnishes a series of Sketches, the first of which is now published, to illustrate the processes of manufacturing opium for home consumption, as commonly practised in many large towns of the Celestial Empire. It seems to be quite a mistaken notion that the Chinese get all or most of their supply of this narcotic drug from British India, and that its use has been introduced amongst them by the questionable mercantile policy of our own Government. On the other hand, we do not intend to under-rate the serious objections, both moral and economical, to that policy, which was again discussed at an influential meeting held last week in London.

The habit of opium-smoking is common all over China; but it is in the west, in the comparatively unknown half of China west of the 110th meridian, that it is most prevalent. In some parts of Western Hu-Pei and Eastern Szechuen it is all but universal; there are few adults in any station of life who do not take an occasional whiff, and the very streets of the towns and villages reek with opium fumes. The practice is there indulged in in the most open manner, and no more stigma or disgrace attaches to it than to smoking tobacco. Mr. Watters, her Majesty's Consul at Ichang, made careful inquiries last year into the origin of the practice, and he found that it had been indulged in for several hundred years, long before the foreign merchants and their opium were ever dreamt of. The custom generations ago passed into the social and domestic habits of the people; and at funerals in the West of China, among other gifts which are transmitted into the next world, by burning paper facsimiles of them in this, for the solace of the departed, is a complete set of opium-smoking requisites—pipe, lamp, needle, &c. The whole of the opium consumed in the West is locally produced, and Indian opium does not come higher up the Yangtse than the districts contiguous to the port of Hankow; nor is it imported by any channel into Western Hu-Pei, Szechuen, or the other province of the West. Above and beyond the enormous quantity there grown for local use there is a large trade in the drug, mostly contraband, from west to east. Indian opium is consumed in the provinces adjacent to the treaty ports, and, being an expensive article as compared with native opium, is mostly smoked by the well-to-do classes. The common people in these provinces smoke the native drug, which is either grown on the borders of Kiang-Su and Ho-Nan, or is smuggled overland from the west. All Western China, therefore, and the lower classes in Eastern China smoke native-grown opium.

We have the testimony of two Englishmen who have had the best opportunities and means of procuring information regarding the native opium of the West—Mr. Colborne Baber, who was for four years Consular Agent in Szechuen watching the trade there; and Mr. Watters, who was our Cousul at Ichang, the port of Western Szechuen, until the other day. The production of opium in Szechuen has been underestimated hitherto. Mr. Baber, living and travelling among the Szechuen people, has been able to hear and see for himself, and he has obtained ample evidence that the production of Chinese opium in this one province is greater than the whole Indian crop, Malwa, Patna, and Benares, put together. Of the amount produced in the hill country of Hu-Pei Mr. Watters has not been able to give me any figures; but he says that in Ichang alone there is an opium restaurant to every thirteen inhabitants, where nothing is consumed except the native drug, produced in one or other of the four western provinces. All over Western China the conditions of poppy culture, as far as the officials are concerned, are those of perfect freedom, and even open encouragement. All the grower has to think of is his profit. Opium is a more risky crop than cereals, but it pays seven times as well. If he chooses to run the risk of a failure in the crop, or of inability to buy rice with the money he gets for his opium, he is at liberty to grow opium if he likes. In ordinary circumstances a poppy crop subjects the grower to no interference on the part of his officials beyond paying the customary taxes; and in many districts where opium in manufacture or transit is the sole source of revenue its culture is encouraged.

There is some force, apparently, in the remark of a correspondent of the *Times* that "The present attitude of the central and provincial Governments of China regarding native opium, as judged by their acts and not their words, and the present state of poppy cultivation in Western China, must be taken into account by any one who wishes to decide for himself the question which the Society for the Suppression of the Opium Trade is placing before this country."

The arrivals of live stock and fresh meat at Liverpool last week, from the United States and Canada, were—of live stock a large decrease, and of fresh meat an increase, on the arrivals of the preceding week: the total being 451 cattle, 724 sheep, 10,646 quarters of beef, 3328 carcasses of mutton, and 495 hogs.—A vessel has arrived in the Thames from the River Plate with 19,000 carcasses of sheep on board, which have been brought over in a frozen state.

On Easter Monday the National Fisheries Exhibition at Norwich will be opened. The Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Princess, Prince Leopold, Earl Spencer, the Earl of Kimberley, Sir W. V. Harcourt, and the Hon. Mr. Mundella are expected to be present. A feature will be the illustration of the aquatic fauna of Norfolk and Suffolk, which will be exhibited in a series of aquaria, specially prepared for the occasion, and furnished with live specimens of every fish indigenous in the local waters as well as those that have been introduced by acclimatisation. Earl Ducie, Viscount Powerscourt, Lord Lovat, Mr. Spencer Walpole, Professor Huxley, and Mr. Calcraft, the permanent secretary to the Board of Trade, have been appointed to act as Her Majesty's Commissioners; and, in addition to a large number of special money prizes, Government gold, silver, and bronze medals and diplomas of honour will be awarded.



FIRE AT LANHYDROCK HOUSE, THE SEAT OF LORD ROBARTES, NEAR BODMIN.

The Extra Supplement.

FIRE AT LANHYDROCK HOUSE,
CORNWALL.

The Engraving which forms an Extra Supplement to this week's *Illustrated London News* represents the conflagration of Lanhydrock House, near Bodmin, Cornwall, on Monday, the 4th inst. This fine old mansion, the seat of Lord and Lady Robartes, and of their son, the Hon. T. C. Agar Robartes, M.P. for East Cornwall, is of some historical interest. It was built between 1636 and 1642, the dates conspicuously inscribed on the walls. The form of the building was three sides of a quadrangle, with a gateway of unusual design; the battlemented structure of granite had a look of greater antiquity. The approach is by a stately avenue of sycamores, and the park is finely wooded. In the time of the Civil Wars, this house was made the head-quarters of the Earl of Essex, while commanding the army of the Parliament in Cornwall. There were many old family portraits in the long gallery, and the library contained a rare collection of old books.

The fire on Monday week began about one or two o'clock in the afternoon, in the kitchen, and spread rapidly, a strong wind blowing full upon the front of the house. The picture-gallery and rooms under it, forming the north wing of the house, were saved by the exertions of the Bodmin Volunteer Fire Brigade and the officers and men of the Royal Cornwall Rangers Militia. They worked with great determination, and succeeded in cutting off the connection of that portion with the rest of the building. The church, standing close to the house, was also preserved. The central block and the south wing were burnt out. The furniture and some of the pictures were carried out before the fire extended too far, but the furniture was greatly injured.

Lord Robartes, who was raised to the Peerage in 1869, represented East Cornwall in Parliament for more than twenty years, and is deservedly esteemed. His son, who now represents the same constituency, was attending to his Parliamentary duties in London at the time of the fire; but Lord and Lady Robartes were at home, and did not leave the mansion till two thirds of it had been destroyed.

FINE ARTS.

OLD WATER-COLOUR SOCIETY.

The annual crop of water-colours of the parent society seems to us to alternate in quality somewhat considerably—like other harvests, or the weather—and the present yield is scarcely so good as last year's. Indeed, very likely this may be through the weather (for how could artists work at their best during the past winter), or it may be through the renewed depression, or, to trace things to their final causes, according to some authorities, through the spots on the sun—who can tell? Where the factors are so nearly the same, however different their combination, it is difficult to account for such mutations, yet they certainly appear. That the average of merit is high—very high—we need hardly say; but, with few exceptions, the members have produced no works of very exceptional or salient excellence.

Even the worthy President, Sir John Gilbert, has been taking a little retrospective repose, and does not surprise us with any new display of his hitherto apparently inexhaustible energy. We have had from his hand something similar, at least in motive, to "A Standard-Bearer" (106) and "Gipsy Encampment" (113), the latter with a knight, accompanied by a lady, asking their way of the group of dubious-looking denizens of the wild champagne—the only two drawings by which the artist is represented. In this last-named and more important work we have, however, that combination of picturesque figures with scenery, equally, if not more, picturesque, in which Sir John is always especially happy—in which we have with something of the sentiment of Salvator Rosa, a grandiose style of landscape-painting with fine rich harmonies of colour, such as few living figure-painters can command.

Among the rare exceptions to which we have alluded we have to place Mr. S. Palmer. In the miniature sunsets which this artist has of late years exhibited, great power of colour and poetical intention were always displayed; but that he did not do justice to himself in these, and that he is capable of rendering any degree of conventionality in his manner frankly acceptable, is shown in two comparatively large idyllic landscapes with pastoral figures, illustrative of "L'Allegro" (18 and 56), the second of which worthily occupied the post of honour. The splendour of afternoon sunlight in one, and the glory of a gorgeous sunrise blazing in gold and orange chromates over the Eastern hills and dispelling the purple night mists in fantastic flakes in the other, are beyond the power of words to describe, and have rarely, if ever, been equalled, for force, in water colours. It is idle to say they are unlike nature in detail; they reach, each as a whole, with their finely composed elements, a higher degree of poetical typical truth by efficiently suggesting the most magnificent of natural effects. Selecting other of the few drawings of poetical character, higher praise than usual should, we think, be accorded to Mr. A. Hunt's two views of his favourite Whitby—one with effect of serene evening (91), the other of a "Sullen-looking Night" (202). A view (124) of a glen at Sligachan, Skye, is also singularly impressive, with its solemn shadows and savage-looking peaks tracing their jagged edges along the twilight sky. In these drawings we are not immediately reminded of Turner, and there is not the customary search for an impossible mystic play of colour in the tones and gradations. Mr. Hale seems to be following in the steps of Mr. Hunt, and there is artistic feeling in his works, of which, perhaps, the most remarkable is "Autumn Twilight" (66). We miss some of the wonted grace and exquisiteness in Mrs. Allingham's contributions. Her rustic lasses chatting over the wall (199) and carrying "The Clothes' Basket" (48) are, however, very charming. "The Harvest" (178), by Tom Lloyd, with harvesters returning homewards singing and making merry, shows a new and commendable departure in the direction of breadth and sentiment. A similar remark applies to Mr. E. Buckman's "God's Share" (147), representing groups of gleaners; there is also a more artistic feeling for colour than in previous works, though some passages want clearing up. Mr. A. Goodman, on the other hand, is more realistic or definite than before in "A Summer Sea-Mount's Bay" (37). There is some want of transparency in the nearer waves, but the whole of the distance is admirable. Mr. W. Duncan has studies of romantic personages, evincing a colourist faculty, but marred by a rather commonplace fleshy type of figure. Mr. Herbert Marshall, as a painter of London scenes—inexhaustibly picturesque, but strangely neglected London—justifies the favourable opinion expressed on his advent to the society in views of the frozen Thames during last winter (1) and of "Rotherhithe" (114).

Returning to members of longer standing, Mr. George

Fripp is as sweetly sober and delightfully truthful as ever, whether dealing with a Thames weir (97) or an Argyleshire loch (131) or glen (239). Mr. Alfred Fripp has a single drawing, "Mending Nets" (103), of peculiar refinement and delicacy. The praise of refined observation and workmanship is also due to C. Davidson's "Late Autumn Afternoon" (257); likewise, as need hardly be said, to E. Duncan's "Sheep-Feeding—Winter" (133). There is nothing here more conscientiously careful and thorough in draughtsmanship than G. P. Boyce's views "In the Auvergne" (195) and "In the Puy-de-Dôme" (195). The latter, however, is surely too chilly in tone; and, from the too great equality of the execution and gradations, the drawings have somewhat the aspect of tapestry. Three small works by Carl Haag, marked by his accustomed vigour of colour and effect, represent a mounted Sheikh (100); "A Night in Egypt" (110), with a bedawee shooting from the back of his recumbent camel at a swooping eagle; and "Zarifa" (215), in a rich Oriental interior.

Birket Foster confines himself to English rustic subjects, and does not again grapple with the glories of Venice, nor the marvels of French Gothic, and we think he does wisely. S. Read turns again from man's architecture to that of God in a large impressive drawing of the mighty walls of the Bass Rock (152) "clanged about" with myriads of solan geese, gulls, &c. The same artist has a smaller drawing, Duncansbay Head, John-o'-Groats (70). O. W. Brierly sends another large illustration of the momentous struggle for maritime supremacy between England and Spain in the sixteenth century, the most effective work by the artist we have seen, depicting "The Decisive Battle fought off Gravelines between the English Fleet and the Spanish Armada, Aug. 8th, 1588" (74). Basil Bradley also comes to the front in a large hunting-subject (125), with the huntsman urging the pack of fox-hounds into a wood as they take up the scent. Mr. Bradley's draughtsmanship of the dog and other animals is beyond reproach, but a little more solidity of execution may be desired. H. Moore's seapiece called "Light Breezes" (13) has movement, but the blues are decidedly too positive. Few painters have observed and analysed the action of waves more carefully than Mr. F. Powell; his definition of them is, however, so sharp that they are apt to acquire almost sculptresque fixity—see No. 19. "Opposite the Setting Sun" (24), by this artist, with ships floating apparently shadowless on the calm sea, and all-pervading light merging its surface through the rising haze of evening almost into the faintly-seen cumuli of the sky, recalls a lovely effect in nature, but hardly does full justice to it in beauty of colour and tenderness of touch. Mr. Henry Wallis sends but one small drawing, entitled "A Genuine Cremona" (260)—two gentlemen examining a violin, with a lady at a piano listening to their comments. Messrs. Dobson, T. M. Richardson, E. A. Goodall, E. K. Johnson, P. J. Naftel—who has benefited in his work by a trip to the Pyrenees—G. II. Andrews, T. Danby, S. P. Jackson, A. P. Newton, R. Thorne Waite, H. Brittan Willis, and other well-known members, are also represented; as likewise Miss Clara Montalba in clever sketches of Venice; and Mrs. Coleman Angell in several of her admirable flower-pieces.

A few works of some mark by younger members still claim notice. "Her First Offer" (169), by E. F. Brewtnall, shows a young lady standing by her papa, to whom she has dutifully submitted a letter of proposal; the expressions are most decorous on both sides, and hardly suggest any romantic or tragic sequel; the costumes are of the most hideous period, about the commencement of the century; technically, however, the drawing has considerable merit. "The Peace-Maker" (183), by N. Tayler—a young woman trying to stop an imminent fight between two navvies who have quarrelled at cards—is not an attractive subject, but the "situation" is well realised. "A Wooded Landscape" (53), by T. J. Watson, is richer in colour than any of the works with which this artist made his début last year. E. A. Waterlow, another lately elected member, on the contrary, seems, we regret to say, to have retrograded both as regards truth and agreeableness of colour. We have, in conclusion, to welcome two accessions to the society—Mr. W. Pilsbury and Mr. G. Du Maurier. Mr. Pilsbury has a Morland-like affection for farm outbuildings and purlieus, and paints them with a sober fidelity, modest harmony, and artistic keeping that is pleasant (if sometimes just a little monotonous) to look upon. It would be hardly fair to expect Mr. Du Maurier to extend the great reputation he has acquired in *Punch* immediately in water colours. He is represented by "Twins" (238), from a design in our dear old contemporary, and by a figure of a young lady looking over "A Picture Book" (267), two small drawings distinguished by the artist's unfailing grace, but in which the draughtsmanship, and light and shade are superior to the colour—as might be expected from Mr. Du Maurier's long practice in black and white.

WORKS BY DUTCH ARTISTS.

At Messrs. Goupil's galleries in Bedford-street, Covent-garden, is an interesting collection of works in oil and water colours by Dutch artists. Many of these artists are already familiar to the London public; but this assemblage of 140 of their works permits more readily an estimate to be formed of the general characteristics of the school. And Holland is one of the few countries which present a distinctly national school. This is apparent not merely in the subject-matter of the works, but in the effects rendered and their treatment—in the almost invariable grey, sad tone, and black shadow, testifying to a humid, depressing, sunless climate; and in the habit of representing nature with great breadth of tone and gradation, as seen through an aerial veil of mist. The power of generalisation to which seeing nature under such conditions obviously conduces always lends to a work of art an air of superior dignity and mastery: we feel that the subject has been grasped in its entirety, without regard to trivial details. In the same process the artist acquires a nice sense of the relative "values" of masses of tone or gradation; and in these particulars the works of the contemporary Dutch painters are well worthy of study by our own artists. There is, however, a danger in this, as in other directions—the danger that breadth may become emptiness, and spaces of "tone" unmeaning. Many works here, particularly among the drawings, have indeed more or less of the infirmity indicated. Another powerful influence on contemporary Dutch art has been exerted by the genius of Israels—throwing a deeper gloom, as it were, over the very climate, and intensifying, frequently to funereal hopelessness, the pathos of the hard, precarious, and dangerous lives of the poor fisherfolk among whom he has lived and worked. Few painters have had so many followers, as this exhibition amply shows. The careful, honest painting which laid the foundation of Israels' fame is exemplified in a small early picture, "The Woodcutter"; and there are several works of later date. We confess that many productions of his latest years provoke our impatience at their unconscionable slovenliness, and excite our resentment at their apparently tampering with, we had almost said trading upon, the sacred sentiment of pity. We regret that

it is impossible within our restricted space this week to review this collection in detail. It must suffice, therefore, to say that there are also generally good samples of the figure-painters Artz, Bisschop, A. Neuhuys, Sadée, Blommers, Henkes, Van der Velden, and Herman ten Kate; of the landscape and marine painters J. Maris, Du Chatel, Backhuyzen, Roelofs, Wissenbruch, Mesdag, Mauve; of the animal-painter Verschuur; and the architectural painters Bosboom and Klinkenberg.

Mrs. Butler (née Thompson) has—besides her picture of the defence of Rorke's Drift, which has at length been finished and sent to the Academy—a picture, separately exhibited in an upper room at the Egyptian Hall, representing the charge of the Scots Greys at Waterloo. The famous dragoons are depicted at full gallop, headed by their officer, dashing in one resistless, resounding mass straight towards the spectator. The subject is a very stirring one, and is treated with great spirit; the actions of the men are well varied, and their expressions, as some of them shout "Scotland for Ever!" are vigorously realised; and the horses are boldly and not unsuccessfully foreshortened; though it may be objected that too many of them seem clear off the ground together. A quieter, more sombre sky might have furnished a better foil to the rush of men and horses below, and would have been more accordant with the recorded rain of that memorable day. The subject is of spectacular interest mainly, and did not, of course, admit of the pathos of the "Roll-Call," or even of the varied expressions of "Quatre Bras." The execution is equal to that in recent works of the artist.

The Spring Exhibition of Modern Water-Colour Drawings at the Royal Pavilion Gallery, Brighton, is now open.

The National Gallery will be closed for cleaning to-day (Saturday). On Easter Monday the gallery will be reopened.

Princess Mary Adelina, Duchess of Teck, will open an Industrial and Fine-Art Loan Exhibition at the Castle Hotel, Richmond, next Wednesday, the 20th inst.

A portrait of her Majesty has been placed in the mess-room of the Royal Artillery permanent barracks at Aldershot. It is a copy of the picture by Angel, which is in the Queen's private dining-room at Windsor Castle, and has been admirably drawn by Mr. Graves, jun.

The Government at Melbourne has bought, for the Colonial collection, Mr. Seymour Lucas's picture of the Gordon Riots, which was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1879, and has since been one of the attractions of the Melbourne International Exhibition.

The first Loan Exhibition in Holland of Old Masters is now on view at the Hague. It comprises notable examples of the most famous Dutch painters and others. The exhibition, which will remain open till the end of the month, is for the benefit of sufferers by recent inundations in that country.

Mr. Bicknell's collection of pictures, which contained two fine works of Turner and a great number by David Roberts, with many other good pictures, was sold by Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last, bringing large prices, and realising altogether the sum of £24,330. The late Mr. Bicknell was the son and heir of Mr. Ellanor Bicknell, whose fine collection was sold by Messrs. Christie in 1863.—Some good modern pictures by English artists were recently sold by Messrs. Christie, belonging to Mr. H. R. Willis, of Wolverley, near Kidderminster, with others from different proprietors whose names were not given; the total of the two days' sale amounting to £15,572.

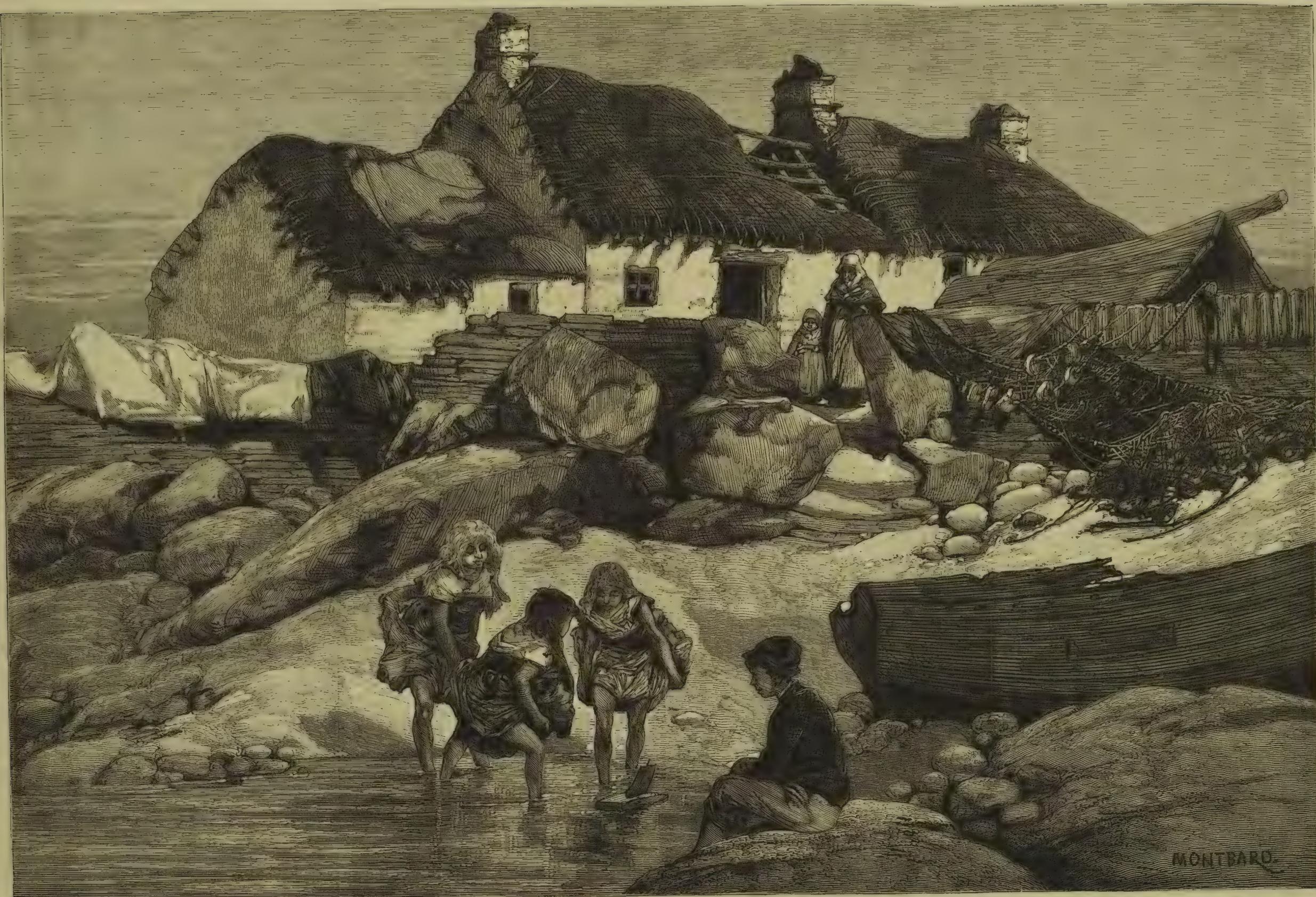
The manager of the Royal Albert Hall writes to us:—"In reference to the exhibition of fine arts to be opened in May next at the Royal Albert Hall, I shall be much obliged if you will kindly allow me to correct a misapprehension which appears to be somewhat widely spread—namely, that the authorities of the Albert Hall will receive works 'rejected' by the council of the Royal Academy. What the council of the Albert Hall have announced is that they are prepared to receive for exhibition, without reference to any further tribunal, such works as have been submitted during the present year to the Royal Academy which want of space alone prevents being exhibited at Burlington House.

A report has been issued, as promised by Mr. Mundella last Session, on the system of circulation of art-objects on loan for exhibition as carried on by the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, from its establishment to the present time. During last year 5217 objects and 5872 pictures in frames were sent out from the parent museum to local exhibitions. Private owners have been encouraged to follow the example of the South Kensington Museum. It is believed that 170,000 loans of examples of fine and industrial art have thus been made by private owners to the various art-exhibitions with which the Department has been connected since 1854. Detailed information as to the loans of the Department is given in a number of appendices to the report.

The second of the series of Cantor Lectures upon the art of Lace-making was given at the Society of Arts on Monday evening, by Mr. Alan Cole. Needle-point lace-work was the subject of the lecture.

The second of a series of lectures on "Stories of the Classics" was given last Saturday night at the Working Men's College in Great Ormond-street, by Mr. R. Mowbray, M.A., Oxford, his subject being "Prometheus." Lord Francis Hervey presided. Mr. Mowbray said that the story of Prometheus as told by Aeschylus was fraught with more of human interest than any other story of the Greek tragedians that had come down to us. The creation of man, the dawn of civilisation, the growth of arts and sciences, the migrations of the human race—these all found a place in the story. The all-pervading force of destiny was the first great idea of Aeschylus stamped in the story of Prometheus, and these could not be summed up in the single line borrowed from another of his plays—"That suffering leads men to the ways of truth."

A proposal has been made by some of the friends of the late Mr. Frank Buckland to perpetuate, by a substantial testimonial, the recollection of his services to Natural History and Fish-culture, and generally to afford to the public an opportunity of paying a tribute of respect to his memory and appreciation of his life-long work. For this purpose a subscription list has been opened. It is intended to expend a portion of the sum subscribed upon a bust of Mr. Buckland, to be placed in the Museum at South Kensington, with the collection he bequeathed to the nation. It is further hoped that the amount collected may be sufficient to supplement the income of Mr. Frank Buckland's widow by an annuity of £100. Should there be any surplus after the purchase of the bust and annuity, the committee propose that it should be applied to promoting the welfare of the fishermen of this country—an object which Mr. Frank Buckland had so much at heart. Subscriptions will be received by Messrs. Cox and Co., Bankers, Craig's-court, Charing-cross; at 54, Portland-place, by T. Douglas Murray, and Lieut.-Colonel E. S. Bridges, Hon. Secs.; and at the office of *Land and Water*, Fleet-street.



THE ELECTIONS IN THE ISLE OF MAN: FISHERMEN'S COTTAGES AT PORT ST. MARY.—SEE PAGE 373.



SHOOTING WATER-FOWL ON LAKE MIRAMBALA, AFRICA.—SEE PAGE 378.

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

TRANSFUSION OF BLOOD.

Professor E. A. Schäfer, F.R.S., began his tenth lecture, on Tuesday, March 22, by explaining the method by which Welcker determined the total amount of blood in an animal to be generally about one thirteenth of the weight of the body. The quantitative composition of the blood was briefly noticed, and the difference in its composition in different parts of the body was stated to be almost inappreciable, except as regards the relative proportions of oxygen and carbonic acid. The variation in different mammals is also very slight; for in most cases the red corpuscles of one animal are destroyed by immersion in the serum of other animals. The possibility of substituting the blood of one animal for that of another (transfusion) was discussed—a subject closely connected with the early history of the Royal Society, whose Fellows devoted much attention to it in consequence of Harvey's recent discovery of the circulation of the blood. Transfusion was first proposed by the Rev. Master Potter; and the infusion of drugs into the blood was first attempted by Christopher Wren, Robert Boyle, Bishop Wilkins, and others. The first transfusion of blood into dogs was performed by Richard Lower, at Oxford and London, in 1666, when it was thought that such a substitution might greatly modify the nature of an individual. The first transfusion in man, when a lamb's blood was used, took place in Paris in 1667. It was considered at first successful, and repeated two or three times by Denis, but was stopped by law, after one fatal result. In November, 1667, Lower and King experimented upon Arthur Coga, a half-witted Bachelor of Theology, who received ten ounces of lamb's blood, whereby he was neither benefited mentally nor injured physically. The operation presently fell into disuse, probably through the disappointment of extravagant expectations. It was revived in the present century by Blundell, and by other experimenters has been placed upon a scientific basis. One main result of their labours has been the demonstration that the blood used for transfusion to replace lost blood must be from an animal of the same species, and for man must be human blood. The use of other animals' blood for this purpose is attended with positive danger.

THE BLOOD IN DISEASE.

Professor E. A. Schäfer, F.R.S., in his eleventh and concluding lecture, given on Tuesday, the 5th inst., considered and illustrated the changes in the blood in disease:—1. In regard to chemical changes, he referred to the variations in the amount of water (diminished in cholera), of fibrin (increased in acute inflammations, and diminished in most fevers), and of albumin; also to the presence of urea, sugar, and uric acid in the blood in some diseases. 2. In regard to morphological changes, reference was made to the diminution in the number and size of the red corpuscles in anaemia from various causes. The very ingenious method of measuring these bodies was explained. The great increase of the number of pale corpuscles, crowding out the red in some diseases, was next noticed. 3. After giving a full account of the different kinds of the microscopical organisms termed bacteria, illustrated by specimens, exhibited by means of the electric light, the Professor gave a detailed account of the researches of several eminent physiologists on the blood, Pollender, Bollinger, Koch, Buhl, Burdon Sanderson, Ewart, Greenfield, and Buchner, relating to the connection of these minute organisms with splenic, hay, relapsing, and intermittent or malarial fevers. Various forms of bacteria appear in cases of pyæmia, diphtheria, smallpox, and typhoid fever; but their connection with the disease is not yet determined. The lecture was concluded with remarks and illustrations of the methods of detecting the presence of blood by means of the spectroscope, and by the very peculiar crystals obtained from it.

CELTIC, SARACENIC, AND MEDIEVAL ORNAMENT.

Mr. H. H. Statham began his third lecture, on Thursday, March 30, with remarks on the style of ornament termed Celtic, which was probably of Byzantine origin, and introduced into the British isles by early Christian missionaries. He referred to some Welsh examples, in diagrams, exhibiting the repetition and alternation of forms, such as the circle and modifications of squares, resembling the Greek fret. The ribbon-work in some illuminated Irish gospels is very intricate, and in some cases 136 interlacings have been traced. Much patient ingenuity was shown, with but little art. Grotesque forms of animals were sometimes introduced with a certain geometrical effect. Saracen ornament was considered in two forms, Arabic and Moresque. From these all human or animal forms were religiously excluded, yet they exhibit most elaborate and beautifully rich ornament. The Arabs were more logical in their dealing with colour than the Celts. Their use of natural forms was highly conventional, and they cultivated symmetry, their alternations and repetitions being very fine. They were fond of what Mr. Statham termed "puzzle-ornament," from its intricacy, such as the effect produced by numerous lines proceeding from a hexagon. Among the illustrations copies of Greek, Roman, Arabic, Indian, and Byzantine scrolls were exhibited for comparison. Moresque ornament was specially characterised in drawings made from the Alhambra. India produced "the ornament of flowers," which were treated in a very realistic manner, especially in textile fabrics, such as carpets, in which the colours were much better blended than they are in many modern examples. The flowers were always treated as ornamental, and not to appear as copies. Indian Damascene metal-work, white upon dark, and Indian shawl patterns were described as very remarkable. The occasional appearance of classic types in Oriental ornament having been referred to, the transition from classic to mediæval art through Byzantine was noticed. Gothic art, the spirit of which was very similar to Greek, was described as specially realistic, with wonderfully truthful carving of natural forms. The German workmen often vulgarised nature, while the British were generally pure in their treatment, and their work exhibits a large amount of thought. Mr. Statham attributed the decay of Gothic art to the rise of the Perpendicular style, and the employment of ornaments of a merely mechanical character. He was indebted to the South Kensington Museum for many fine illustrations.

RENAISSANCE ORNAMENT.

Mr. H. H. Statham began his fourth and concluding lecture, given on Thursday, the 7th inst., by characterising Renaissance ornament as going back to the past, and endeavouring to reproduce it—being essentially imitative of Roman art, with a tendency to a realistic copy of nature. It arose in the fifteenth century, with the revival of the study of classic literature. Pure Greek art was then little known; and that of the Renaissance was deficient in logical principles—mere imitation superseded originality. Referring to a number of illustrations, Mr. Statham commented on their merits and incongruities, many of which were peculiar to different countries. The occasional intermixture with Oriental types was attributed to the workmen being chiefly Eastern emigrants, many of whom came to Venice and thence travelled westward. Specimens of German work, in which grotesque animal forms appear, were discussed (including work by Albert Dürer), some being excessively coarse and vulgar. Italian examples were next considered,

and an example of Michael Angelo's work in the Sistine Chapel was said to contain all the vices of the age. The colouring was also described as inharmonious and common-place. The building up of incongruous materials, cumulative ornament, was censured, as contrary to the very first principles of good style in ornament, which require all the parts to be homogeneous in their character and intimately connected, as if they originated from the same workshop. Examples of this and the reverse were commented on. Advertising to French Renaissance specimens, Mr. Statham commented on some fine examples of the age of Louis XIV., some of which exhibited a good forcible style; others showed much incongruity. When the Watteau style prevailed good ornament was at its last gasp. The style of Louis XV. was in accordance with the prevailing moral corruption of the time; and that of Louis XVI., pretty and realistic, exhibited the complete degradation of good taste. After remarking on the merits and demerits of the Adam and Japanese styles, Mr. Statham protested against the inconsistency of their juxtaposition in the same room. In conclusion, he referred to the importance of the application of sound logical principles in architecture and furniture, and described how these principles were manifested in the treatment of materials in Egyptian, Greek, Gothic, and Oriental ornament. He stated that much good ornament now produced is not estimated sufficiently, and censured the preference frequently given to mere surface ornaments, to the exclusion of paintings and engravings, intellectual works.

THE KING IN HIS RELATION TO EARLY CIVIL JUSTICE.

Sir Henry S. Maine, K.C.S.I., in beginning his discourse at the evening meeting on Friday, the 1st inst., said that in the records of the very ancient races with whom we have some affinity, the King is almost always associated with the administration of justice, as well as being almost invariably a military chief, and constantly a priest. The very early Hindoo law books, of which the "Code of Manu" is one, at first dealt with all things human and divine, but always assume a king to administer justice, with learned Brahmins for assessors. The great Brehons who declared ancient Irish law were kings or kings' sons, with judges as assessors; and in the poems ascribed to Homer, the king, as judge, pronounces "dooms," or judgments, supposed to be dictated from on high. The Hebrew judges, such as Deborah, Eli, and Samuel, who represented a form of kingship, were exponents and administrators of the law; and this function, which scarcely appears in Saul and David, was revived in Solomon. By the side of the king there was another fountain of law and justice, the popular assemblies. The Roman law, which mainly supplies the law of the civilised world, where English law does not prevail, descended from this residuary jurisdiction; yet this law was distilled through the Roman prætor, to whom it descended from the half-fabulous ancient Kings of Rome. In the old Teutonic administration of justice we find the King and the popular tribunal side by side, and the relations of the two are tolerably clear in the law of the Salian Franks, which was really a manual of procedure for the ancient German court of the hundred. The King first appears as claiming a share of the fines; but gradually his authority gives most of its characteristics to the administration of law, and eventually popular justice is administered in the King's name. Royal justice steadily grew at the expense of popular courts, through their great numbers, and the burden of attending them cast upon the free cultivators. The justice administered by the King was also purer, more efficient, and more skilfully adapted to the facts. He was also ambulatory, moving over his territory with great rapidity. King John travelled over half of England in May, 1207, and continued the practice throughout his reign. Gradually, however, the itinerant king became a monarch of the modern type, and was represented by his "justices in eyre" (from *ire*, to go). The judicial system of England is, therefore, of Royal origin, and, except in the change introduced by county courts, is the most centralised in the world. The popular courts have practically perished; but the law itself has not changed. In France the civil code is little more than a version of Roman jurisprudence, and much of the form of the old popular judicature is retained. The residuary authority of the King in England produced also the Court of Chancery and the oppressive Star Chamber, which latter marks the exhaustion of what was once the most valuable of all sources of justice. Eventually, the reforming authority of the king descended to legislatures, now almost everywhere the children of the British Parliament.

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

The Rev. H. R. Haweis, in his third lecture on American Humourists, on Saturday last, the 2nd inst., gave a brief sketch of Mr. Lowell's life. He was born at Elmwood, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Feb. 22, 1819, and graduated at Harvard. He studied the law for a short time, but soon gave it up. He travelled in Europe, devoting himself most assiduously to the study of the language and literature of Italy and other countries. The fruit appeared in his beautiful poems and essays published at various times: "Prometheus," 1844; "Under the Willows," 1869; "The Cathedral," 1870; "Among my Books" and "The Biglow Papers," 1846-62; "The Fable for Critics," &c., and he edited the *Atlantic Monthly*, 1857-62. He was appointed American Minister at Madrid in 1877 and at St. James's in 1880, being another eminent example of the employment of literary Americans as diplomats. His political principles were described as Conservative-Liberal, he being always willing to hear both sides of a question. The moral and religious element is essentially prominent in his character. He aims at getting at the root of a question, and when he reaches it he devotes all his power to maintain the truth, for which he will endure no apologies or compromise. He desires to be a man among men. Genius he holds to be a bubble in comparison with goodness, which is pure gold. He is one of the illustrious band of Abolitionists, being its poet. He was always a thorough opponent of slavery; and vigorously denounced the Mexican war of 1846-8, which had the extension of slavery as its chief object, as most iniquitous. This was the subject of the first series of "The Biglow Papers," in which he skilfully employs the old American dialect, and strikes home to the hearts of the great mass of the people. His Cassandra-like voice foretold the coming struggle between North and South. His stern, serious appeals failing, he turned to satire, and succeeded in making the advocates of slavery supremely ridiculous; using the weapon they had employed against fanatical abolitionists. The characters of the Rev. Homer Wilbur, the simple-minded, honest, pedantic minister, the father and son, Ezekiel and Hosea Biglow, homely, clear-headed, and full of shrewd common sense, and the despicable, time-serving Birdofreedom Sawin, are vividly delineated. The second series of the "Biglow Papers" powerfully aided the government of the North during the civil war of 1861-4. The lecture, which was interspersed with numerous characteristic extracts, was concluded by the reading of the poem "Jonathan to John," in which Mr. Lowell keenly upbraids us for our conduct and temper towards the North at the beginning of the struggle.

ARTEMUS WARD.

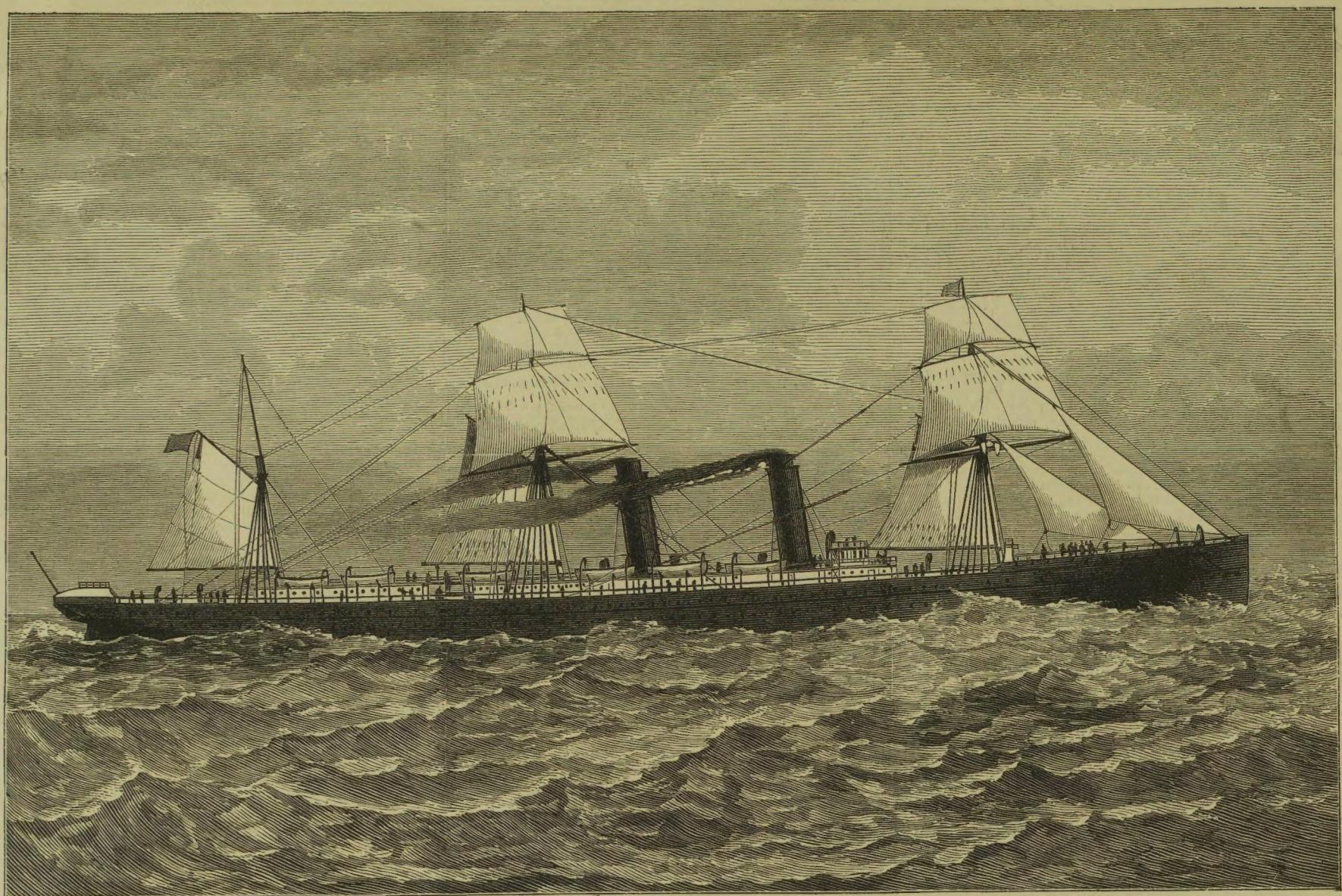
The Rev. H. R. Haweis, in his fourth and concluding lecture on some American Humourists, given on Saturday, the 9th inst., commented on the characteristics of the writings and lectures of Charles F. Browne, who was born at Waterford, in Maine, in 1836, worked for some time as a type-setter in a printing-office, travelled about earning his living, and finally settled at Boston. Here he became a popular writer and editor of small periodicals, till, tired of the place, he travelled about again as a lecturer and assumed the name of Artemus Ward, giving his discourses in remarkably varied places with great success as a "showman." His longing desire to visit England was accomplished in 1866, when he was a dying man; and after lecturing in London he ended his career at Southampton, on March 6, 1867. His works are really his autobiography, and reflect his personal character, which was extremely amiable, according to the testimony of those who thoroughly knew him. During his short and restless life he was a keen observer of the peculiarities of men and manners, with a sharp eye for incident. As a lecturer and writer he exhibited great versatility of mind and spontaneousness of utterance. He appears to have desired to make his lectures as devoid of information and as full of fun as possible, mingled with much solid good sense, enlivened with flashes of wit. He attacked all kinds of Pecksniffism and moral platitudes, but never sneered at religion or virtue. Mild profanity he said was wicked, and not funny. His association of incongruous ideas was indescribable, and intensely humorous. His style and language were thoroughly adapted to the common people, upon whose hearts he played as on a fiddle. His peculiarities in spelling were also suggestive. The remarks of Mr. Haweis throughout the lecture were enlivened by well-selected extracts from "Artemus Ward: his Book." These lectures will be re-delivered at the London Institution on April 29, May 6, 13, 20, at 5 p.m.

FARADAY LECTURE.—(CHEMICAL SOCIETY.)

Professor Helmholtz, F.R.S., of Berlin, who received the Royal Society's Copley Medal in 1873, received the Faraday Medal of the Chemical Society at the Royal Institution on Tuesday, the 5th inst. He then gave a discourse on "The Modern Development of Faraday's Conception of Electricity." He began by referring to the exactness and precision of Faraday's words, and to the way in which he had been led to a large number of general theories without mathematical aid. The first great fundamental problem which he discussed was the existence of forces acting directly at a distance without any intervening medium. With wonderful sagacity he saw how, by the systems of tensions and pressures produced by the dielectric and magnetic polarisation of the space surrounding electrified bodies, &c., all the phenomena of magnetic and electro-magnetic attraction, repulsion, and induction can be explained, without having recourse to forces acting at a distance. The second problem attacked by Faraday was the connection between electric and chemical force. His experiments contradicted the theory of Berzelius that the quantity of electricity collected in atoms is dependent upon their mutual electro-chemical differences, and proved the truth of the well-known law of definite electrolytic action. Since that time the methods of observing and measuring electrical phenomena have enormously improved. Currents which would take a century to decompose a milligram of water, can be very well observed. Kohlrausch has proved that in dilute solutions of salts, &c., every atom under the influence of currents of the same density moves on with its own peculiar velocity, independently of other atoms, the total amount of chemical motion being represented by the sum of equivalents of the "cation" gone forwards and the "anion" gone backwards. This established Faraday's law, which tells us that the same definite quantity of either positive or negative electricity moves always with each univalent ion. The most startling conclusion from this is that if elements are composed of atoms, electricity also, both positive and negative, is divided into definite elementary portions, which behave like atoms of electricity. Now, it can be shown that electrolytic conduction is not limited to solutions of acids and salts, but that solid bodies, such as glass, behave like electrolytes. The Professor then proceeded to consider the forces which produce these motions, and showed how enormous was the quantity of electricity as measured by its electrostatic force required to decompose a small quantity of water; thus the electricity of one milligram of water separated and communicated to two balls one kilometre distant would produce an attraction between them equal to 25,000 kilos. From various considerations, we are driven to the conclusion that the motion of the ions through the interior of the liquid is resisted solely by the mutual attractions of the electrical charges of the ions. As soon as the ions are to be separated from their electrical charges the current meets with a powerful resistance, the overpowering of which requires much work. The Professor then surveyed the mutual relations between heat, electricity, and chemical action; and finally stated that, as the facts leave no doubt that the mightiest of chemical forces are of electric origin, he concluded, with Faraday, that the forces termed chemical affinity and electricity are one and the same. The lecture was illustrated by experiments. At its conclusion a vote of thanks, proposed by Professor Roscoe, the President of the Chemical Society, and seconded by Professor Tyndall, was carried with great enthusiasm.

CONVERSION OF RADIANT HEAT INTO SOUND.

Professor Tyndall, in his discourse at the evening meeting on Friday, the 8th inst., described and illustrated his most recent investigations on the absorption of heat by gases and vapours. After referring to the criticisms of some philosophers, he stated that his results had been fully established by means of well-tried apparatus, which he characterised as powerful, delicate, and exact. Having witnessed Mr. Graham Bell's method of obtaining musical sounds through the action of an intermittent beam of light upon solid bodies, which sounds Dr. Tyndall attributed to rapid changes of temperature producing corresponding changes of shape and volume, he was led to consider that, if gases and vapours really absorb radiant heat, they ought to produce sounds more intense than those obtainable from solids. This opinion was justified by experiment. The electric and lime lights, a red-hot poker, a lighted candle, and other sources of heat were tried in experiments upon a great variety of gases, vapours, and perfumes, which produced sounds of different degrees of intensity. To concentrate the rays of heat the Professor employed glass lenses, and afterwards a reflecting mirror. A disk of sheet zinc, at first provided with radial slits, afterwards with teeth and interspaces cut through it, was mounted vertically on a whirling-table, and made to rotate rapidly across the beam near the focus. The passage of the slit produced the desired intermittence, while a flask containing the gas or vapour to be examined received the shocks of the beam immediately behind the rotating disk. From the flask a tube of india-rubber, ending in a tapering one of ivory or boxwood, led to a keenly sensitive ear. The relation between the amount of radiant heat absorbed by a vapour or gas, and the corresponding increase in the loudness of the sound produced, was also proved. A glass tube, stopped by plates of



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BOILING AND TESTING OPIUM IN CHINA.—SEE PAGE 378.